



CITY COUNCIL

WORKSHOP AND REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

March 4, 2026

7:00 PM

202 Railroad Avenue, Rifle, CO 81650

5:30 PM - Workshop Meeting

Discussion and Review

- a. Take-Home Vehicle Program for the Rifle Police Department
- b. Discussion on Liquor Festival Permits
- c. Discussion on Police Chief Search
- d. Review Draft Strategic Planning Agenda

7:00 PM - Regular Meeting

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
3. **Roll Call**
4. **Public Comment** *(Maximum time permitted for Public Comment is 3 minutes per person)
*(Reserved for general comments or items on the agenda that are not a public hearing)
5. **Consent Agenda**
 - 5.a. Consider Minutes of the February 18, 2026 Regular Meeting
 - 5.b. Consider Liquor License Renewal for Kum & Go, LC dba Maverik 5031
 - 5.c. Consider Liquor License Renewal for Jalisco Grill, LLC dba Jalisco Grill
 - 5.d. Consider Liquor License Renewal for Thai Chili Bistro, Inc dba Thai Chili Bistro
 - 5.e. Consider Approval of Purchase Order for Parachute Area Transit System for 2026
 - 5.f. Consider Approval of Bookcliff Arts Council GRIT Grant Request in the Amount of \$4,800

- 5.g. Consider Approval of the New Ute Theater Society GRIT Grant Request in the Amount of \$3,800
- 5.h. Consider Approval of the Middle Colorado Watershed Council GRIT Grant Request in the Amount of \$3,000
- 5.i. Consider Approval of the Garfield County Public Library, Rifle Branch, GRIT Grant Request in the Amount of \$3,000
- 5.j. Consider Amending Article 3 of Chapter 16 of the Rifle Municipal Code to Amend Building Height Standards - Ordinance No. 3, Series of 2026 (2nd Reading)
- 5.k. Consider Amending Article 3 of Chapter 16 of the Rifle Municipal Code to Amend Lot Size Standards - Ordinance No. 4, Series of 2026 (2nd Reading)
- 5.l. Consider Amending Article 3 of Chapter 16 of the Rifle Municipal Code to Amend Landscaping Standards - Ordinance No. 5, Series of 2026 (2nd Reading)
- 5.m. Consider the 2026 Intergovernmental Agreement and Purchase Order Request for Mosquito Control with Garfield County
- 5.n. Consider Letter of Support for Garfield County's Road 215 Reconstruction Project - CDS Application

6. Action, if any, on Workshop Items

7. Presentation

- 7.a. Highwater Farms

8. Regular Agenda

- 8.a. Consider Appointment to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
- 8.b. Consider Middle Colorado Watershed Council Request for Letters of Support
 - 8.b.i. Letter of Support - Climate Smart Communities Initiatives Grant Application for Improvements to Rifle Creek in Deerfield Park
 - 8.b.ii. Letter of Support - Colorado Healthy Rivers Grant Application for Sediment Control on Government Creek
- 8.c. Consider Purchase of Two 2025 Ford Police Interceptor Utility Patrol Vehicles

9. Administrative Reports

9.a. Report to City Manager

10. Comments from Mayor and Council

11. Adjournment

ACCESSIBILITY STATEMENT

The City of Rifle values full inclusion and access for all of our facilities, programs, activities and services. We are pleased to provide meaningful accommodations to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and reasonably provide translation, interpretation, modifications, accommodations, alternative formats, auxiliary aids, and services. To request special assistance, call City Clerk Alexis Ramirez at 970-665-6405 or email our ADA Team at ADATeam@rifleco.org. Please allow 48 hours for your requests to be met.

La Ciudad de Rifle valora la plena inclusión y acceso para todas nuestras instalaciones, programas, actividades y servicios. Nos complace proporcionar alojamientos significativos para cumplir con la Ley de Estados Unidos con Discapacidades (ADA) y proporcionar razonablemente traducciones, interpretaciones, modificaciones, adaptaciones, formatos alternativos, ayudas auxiliares y servicios. Para solicitar asistencia especial, llame a la City Clerk Alexis Ramirez al 970-665-6405 o envíe un correo electrónico a el equipo ADA a ADATeam@rifleco.org. Por favor, permita 48 horas para que se atiendan sus solicitudes.



Agenda Item #a.

Agenda Item Name:

Take-Home Vehicle Program for the Rifle Police Department

Presenter:

Debra Funston, Chief of Police

Mike Kuper, Lieutenant

Item Description:

Discussion about feasibility of a take home car program for the Rifle Police Department

Recommended Action:

N/A

Fiscal Impact:

To be discussed in the presentation

Operational Impact:

N/A

Prior Board Motions:

N/A

Background Information:

N/A

Executive Summary:

The Rifle Police Department is providing information to Council to move towards a take-home car program for all sworn personnel in the department. Currently, the PD has 18 vehicles and 23 eligible positions for the take-home car program (4 marked units, 1 unmarked unit short). We have 11 personnel utilizing take home vehicles at this time (Admin, Supervisors, Detectives and SRO). The benefits of a take-home vehicle program include recruitment and retention (all other jurisdictions in the County provide take home vehicles with the exception of Glenwood Springs) as well as benefits to the maintenance and upkeep of vehicles.

With current staffing shortages we could potentially initiate full sworn staff take-home cars in 2026. A presentation for an integrated take-home car program over the next 3 years will be outlined as it would be best practice to ensure a consistent replacement schedule in the future years. Marked units generally are \$100,000.00 including exterior logos and upfits. Unmarked units are generally \$60,000.00 with a minor upfit. Rifle Police Department Policy on Take Home Cars is attached in this workshop item.

Staff has provided the following implementation schedule for Council's consideration: 2026 - 4 vehicles (this is

an increase of two over the adopted budget), 2027 - 4 vehicles, 2028 - 3 vehicles. After this period, an annual purchase of 2-3 vehicles would be required to keep up with planned vehicle maintenance requirements.

Notification Requirements:

N/A

Prepared By:

Debra Funston, Chief of Police

Attachments:

1. Take-Home_Cars

Take-Home Cars

702.1 PURPOSE

Establish uniform guidelines, restrictions and eligibility criteria for the use of assigned vehicles for the Rifle Police Department's take home vehicle program.

702.2 POLICY

This policy establishes the Department's Assigned Vehicle and Take Home Vehicle programs. These programs are approved and authorized by the City of Rifle and the Chief of Police.

The Rifle Police Department and the City of Rifle has recognized the benefits of individually assigned cars for Public Safety personnel. The long-term asset value of the equipment is extended significantly because the cars are assigned to one operator, the mileage is extended, and the vehicle maintenance and care is improved. Vehicle assignments and replacements shall be in accordance with the fleet management policies of the department.

To ensure the integrity of the program, strict procedures and prohibitions contained in this and other policies of the department shall govern it. Officers shall familiarize themselves with this and other pertinent policies and guidelines regarding the program. Any of these privileges may, at the discretion of the Chief of Police, be suspended or revoked in part or whole at any time for violation of any provision or departmental policy associated with vehicle care, maintenance or operation.

Suspension or loss of these privileges shall not be subject to appeal.

702.3 PROCEDURES

- I. The City of Rifle Police Department's vehicle take-home program is a privilege extended to authorized, designated personnel of the police department. Before the employee is authorized or eligible to participate in the Vehicle take-home program, he/she must meet criteria that includes, but is not limited to:
 - The member shall have successfully completed the Field Training Program or probationary period with the Rifle Police Department and be in good standing with the department; and
 - The member resides within the city limits of Rifle; or
 - The member resides within a 60-mile radius from the nearest Rifle city limit using the shortest, most economical and reasonable route.
 - Those personnel as authorized by the Chief of Police.

II. Assignment of Vehicles

Assignment of take-home vehicles shall be approved by the Chief of Police, or his/her designee, based on the nature of the member's duties, job description and essential functions, and employment or appointment status.

Rifle Police Department

Rifle PD Policy Manual

Take-Home Cars

- A. Departmental vehicles shall be assigned to individual members for full-time retention and use within the limitations of this and other policies.
- B. Assignment of vehicles under the vehicle take-home program is a privilege and may be rescinded by the Chief of Police at any time for cause.
- C. All authorized, designated personnel who live outside the City of Rifle shall confine use of the City's vehicle to the shortest, most direct route to and from their home, the city or other authorized duty assignment. Restrictions on take home vehicles may be imposed if the direct route home has unreasonably rough terrain potentially causing excessive wear and tear on the department vehicle over time.
- D. Members are permitted to use assigned vehicles for minor personal errands (such as stops at grocery stores, cleaner's etc.) only while traveling directly to and from work or other authorized assignment or location. -
- E. Members shall refrain from transporting family, friends or any civilian personnel except in the performance of their lawful duties.
- F. Use of City vehicles outside the City of Rifle shall be confined strictly to official Public Safety business unless otherwise herein provided for or specifically approved by the Chief of Police.
- G. Officers participating in the take home car program for the Rifle Police Department understand their assigned take home vehicle may be reassigned as resources allow at any time.

Vehicles will not be used when off-duty except:

- A. In circumstances when a member has been placed on call by the Chief of Police or designee and there is high probability that the member will be called back to duty.
- B. When the member is performing a work-related function during what normally would be an off-duty period, including vehicle maintenance or traveling to or from work-related activity or function.
- C. When the member has received permission from the Chief of Police or designee.
- D. When the vehicle is being used by the Chief of Police, Lieutenant or members who are in on-call administrative positions.
- E. When the vehicle is being used by all on-call assignments.

702.4 GENERAL REGULATIONS

- I. All authorized, designated personnel participating in the Vehicle take-home program shall have in their possession a valid Colorado driver's license at all times while operating a Public Safety or other City vehicle. Off-duty officers shall also have in their possession their badge, department issued Peace Officer identification, authorized and approved firearm and portable radio. Officers shall be appropriately attired in order to maintain a favorable public, professional image.
- II. Unattended vehicles shall always be kept locked with keys removed at all times. Seat belts must be used as required by City and departmental policy and state law.

Rifle Police Department

Rifle PD Policy Manual

Take-Home Cars

- III. Members shall not leave weapons or materials relative to their job or other issued equipment in the passenger compartment in plain view of their vehicle when it is parked at their residence.
- IV. When off-duty or while outside of the City of Rifle, officers shall not take enforcement action unless absolutely necessary to protect the life of another (i.e.: crimes against persons or intoxicated drivers). Other traffic violations, misdemeanors and property type crimes are not considered urgent or life threatening and do not require emergency intervention. If an offense is witnessed by the officer while outside the city limits of Rifle, the officer may contact our department's communications dispatcher and have the proper jurisdiction contacted for enforcement action if necessary.
- V. Members on or off duty, or passengers, who intend to consume or possess, or who have consumed any amount of alcoholic beverage shall never drive or ride in any City owned vehicles.
- VI. No off-duty Public Safety vehicle shall be parked on the lot of any alcoholic beverage establishment or in such proximity it may be reasonably inferred the officer is patronizing the establishment.
- VII. The vehicle shall not be utilized for carrying heavy or excessive loads and shall not have objects protruding from the trunk or windows. Exception to this will be official equipment or evidence.
- VIII. While on duty all officers shall have all necessary equipment to perform their duties in a safe manner including but not limited to a medical bag, AED, Rifle PD issued less-lethal shotgun, Rifle PD issued rifle, and "go bag."
- IX. When a member will be away (e.g., on vacation) for periods extending one week, vehicles are to be secured at the department facility.
- X. The vehicle shall be accessible to members of the Rifle Police Department at all times.

702.5 MAINTENANCE

Each officer of the Agency who will operate a vehicle during his/her tour of duty must check the following on the assigned vehicle.

- I. Prior to use, the following items shall be checked daily by the officer:
 - Proper inflation and condition of tires;
 - Brakes, lights, windshield wipers and washers, horn, emergency equipment, and other electrical equipment;
 - Damage to exterior and interior of the vehicle;
 - Mechanical defects - Certain conditions such as a defective exhaust, steering mechanism irregularities, alignment, or other mechanical defects can only be discovered after the vehicle is operational; and
 - These conditions, or any of the above not readily corrected shall be immediately reported to their direct supervisor and a report filed. An employee shall not operate an unsafe vehicle.

Rifle Police Department

Rifle PD Policy Manual

Take-Home Cars

II. Prior to use, the following items shall be checked as needed by the officer:

- Cleanliness, particular attention should be given to any loose items inside the vehicle that have the potential to be used as a weapon against the operator or would hinder the safe operation of the vehicle. It is important for the assigned vehicles to sustain a professional and clean appearance;
- Gauges, to keep the vehicle within the proper operating ranges;
- Condition of spare tire and other necessary equipment;
- Oil and water (each time the vehicle is refueled);
- Battery water level (if not maintenance free) and transmission fluid (at least weekly); and
- Routine maintenance (oil, filter, lube) At the beginning of each shift, the officer shall search the prisoner transport area. The rear seat will be removed and the area searched.
- The vehicle's rear seat area will be searched in the same manner after every prisoner transport. Prior to the transport of any prisoner the officer shall search the detainee prior to that officer transport. This shall also apply even when the officer receives the detainee from another officer.
- All officers will be subject to random maintenance/cleanliness checks at the discretion of the Chief of Police or City of Rifle mechanic.
- Members participating in the vehicle take-home program are responsible for ensuring all routine upkeep is performed on the vehicle. This includes ensuring the vehicle is kept clean, all equipment is operating properly, and scheduled maintenance is performed regularly. Officers assigned to night shift may request in writing to the Assistant Chief of Police to arrange for maintenance. The officer will be responsible for transportation to and from the city mechanics garage while their assigned vehicle has maintenance performed. Oftentimes the officer that is on duty can assist in transportation for this officer.

702.6 ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS

When driving a take-home vehicle to and from work outside of the jurisdiction of the Rifle Police Department or while off-duty, an officer shall not initiate enforcement actions except in those circumstances where a potential threat to life or serious property damage exists (see the Off-Duty Law Enforcement Actions and Law Enforcement Authority policies).

Officers may render public assistance when it is deemed prudent (e.g., to a stranded motorist).

Officers driving take-home vehicles shall be armed, appropriately attired and carry their department-issued identification. Officers should also ensure that department radio communication capabilities are maintained to the extent feasible.



Agenda Item #b.

Agenda Item Name:

Discussion on Liquor Festival Permits

Presenter:

Alexis Ramirez, City Clerk

Item Description:

Liquor Festival Permitting Process & Regulations

Recommended Action:

Discussion Only.

Fiscal Impact:

To be discussed in the presentation.

Operational Impact:

To be discussed in the presentation.

Prior Board Motions:

N/A

Background Information:

Under Colorado law, a **Festival Permit** is required when an event involves the sale, service, or distribution of alcohol beverages by one or more active Colorado liquor licensees at a location other than their permanently licensed premises.

When Is a Festival Permit Required?

Pursuant to **C.R.S. § 44-5-101(1)(j)**, the Colorado Liquor Enforcement Division (LED) may issue a Festival Permit to an eligible liquor licensee for the sale and service of alcohol beverages at a festival or similar event.

A Festival Permit is required when:

- Alcohol beverages will be **sold, served, or distributed** at a festival, fair, or similar event;
- The event is located **outside the licensee's permanently licensed premises**; and
- The alcohol service will be conducted by one or more **active Colorado liquor licensees**.

Who May Apply?

In accordance with **C.R.S. § 44-5-101(1)(j)** and applicable Liquor Enforcement Division Rules (1 CCR 203-2), applicants must:

- Hold an **active Colorado liquor license** in good standing;
- Be properly registered and in good standing with the **Colorado Secretary of State**, if applicable;
- Obtain approval from the **local licensing authority** in the jurisdiction where the event will occur.

Executive Summary:

City Clerk will provide Council a presentation as the Local Licensing Authority over Liquor Festival Permits for upcoming events with-in City limits and seeking direction from Council to implement a dual permitting process between local liquor authority and state liquor authority.

Notification Requirements:

N/A

Prepared By:

Alexis Ramirez, City Clerk

Attachments:

1. DRAFT - City Festival Application
2. DR 8420 - State Festival Application



FESTIVAL PERMIT APPLICATION PACKET

Rifle City Hall-City Clerk's Office

202 Railroad Ave.

Rifle, CO 81650

(970)665-6405



Festival Liquor Permit Application Information

Under Colorado law, a **Festival Permit** is required when an event involves the sale, service, or distribution of alcohol beverages by one or more active Colorado liquor licensees at a location other than their permanently licensed premises. City of Rifle has a dual permitting process between local liquor authority and state liquor authority.

When Is a Festival Permit Required?

Pursuant to **C.R.S. § 44-5-101(1)(j)**, the Colorado Liquor Enforcement Division (LED) may issue a Festival Permit to an eligible liquor licensee for the sale and service of alcohol beverages at a festival or similar event.

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Who May Apply?

In accordance with **C.R.S. § 44-5-101(1)(j)** and applicable Liquor Enforcement Division Rules (1 CCR 203-2), applicants must:

- Hold an **active Colorado liquor license** in good standing;
- Be properly registered and in good standing with the **Colorado Secretary of State**, if applicable;
- Obtain approval from the **local licensing authority** in the jurisdiction where the event will occur.

Completed City and State applications, required documentation, and fees must be submitted to the City Clerk's Office at least **60 days prior** to the event for consideration. Make checks payable to City of Rifle.

Physical & Mailing Address:

Attn: City Clerk

202 Railroad Ave.

Rifle, CO 81650

Email: aramirez@rifleco.org



THE FOLLOWING SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS MUST BE ATTACHED TO THIS APPLICATION FOR A PERMIT TO BE ISSUED:

- Complete Application (per event) & Fee** of **\$200.00** payable to the “City of Rifle”
- Attach an accurate diagram** of the area/premise to be licensed (not larger than 8 ½ x 11).

MUST be submitted by applicant for the application to be considered.

- Inside Location/Event: Outline area where alcohol will be served, consumed, and stored in **red**. Reflect bars, walls, partitions, ingress, egress, restrooms, location of alcohol sales, and dimensions.
- Outside Location/Event: Outline area where alcohol will be served, consumed, and stored in **red**. Reflect bars, walls, partitions, ingress, egress, restrooms, location of alcohol sales, and dimensions. Reflect method of intended control to keep alcohol from being brought in or removed from the licensed area, i.e., fencing, ropes, barriers, etc.
- Attach a copy** of the Control Plan (See guidelines below)
- Attach a copy** of Possession Authorization, Deed, Lease or Signed Letter to the Applicant
 - *If event is on City property, submit a copy of the conditionally approved rental agreement or Parks and Recreation Facility Use Permit - [Application](#).*
 - *If event is on County property, submit a copy of the signed fairgrounds event use agreement.*
- Attach a list** of **ALL** participating, allowed Liquor Licensees – Include License #, Responsible person name, email and phone number. (**NO** substitutions after permit is approved)
- Attach list** of all Certified Responsible Servers with **copy** of Certificate
- Attach copy** of Temporary Local Sales Tax
 - **Sales Tax Compliance** **Even though these permits are issued to active licensees, the retail sale of alcohol beverages to consumers is still subject to state and local sales taxes. Applicants should contact the Department of Revenue at (303) 238-7378 to determine the correct method of remitting the state sales tax.*



- Attach a copy** of Certificate of Liability Insurance if event is held on city property.
(Example below)
 - Identified as Additional Insured:
 - **City of Rifle** – Event Location Name – Property Address
 - Must have coverage for event dates
 - Must have liquor liability insurance

Once a complete application is received:

- Upon review, staff will contact the applicant if clarification or additional supporting documentation is needed.
- Public notice of the proposed event and procedure for protesting issuance of the permit shall be conspicuously posted at the proposed location for at least (10) days before approval of the permit by Local Licensing Authority (44-5-106 C.R.S.).

A complete application, required documentation, and fees must be submitted to the City Clerk's Office at least **60** days prior to the event for consideration.

Applications that do not include the above information will not be accepted.

NOTE: ALL ALCOHOL BEVERAGE FESTIVALS THAT WILL TAKE PLACE UPON PRIVATE, OR CITY-OWNED, LEASED OR CONTROLLED AREAS, MUST SUBMIT A COMPLETE SPECIAL EVENT APPLICATION TO THE PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT WHERE ADDITIONAL RENTAL FEES, DAMAGE DEPOSITS MAY APPLY AND MAY VARY UPON SIZE OF EVENT PARTICIPANTS.

THIS SPECIAL EVENT PDF PACKET CAN BE FOUND AT:

<https://www.rifleco.org/272/Host-A-Special-Event>

CITY OF RIFLE LICENSEES MAY HAVE UP TO **4** FESTIVALS IN A CALENDAR YEAR.

NON-IN-CITY LICENSEES ARE PERMITTED **2** FESTIVALS IN A CALENDAR YEAR.



ALCOHOL FESTIVAL PERMIT APPLICATION

NOTE: A complete application must be filed with the City of Rifle Parks and Recreation Department **no less than 60 days** prior to the requested festival event date. A complete application packet must be received by Clerk's Office at least **60 days** prior to the Event.

All Information must be printed legibly in ink or typewritten.

Applicant Entity Name (Legal): _____

Trade Name of Applicant (dba): _____

State Liquor License Number: _____ License Type: _____

Business Phone Number: _____ Contact Number: _____

Business Address: _____

Business Owner Name: _____ Cell Ph. number: _____

Email: _____

Name On-Site Registered Manager: _____

Manager Phone Number (local/cell): _____

Email: _____

FESTIVAL INFORMATION

Festival Name: _____

Festival Location: _____

Festival Date (Specific per Event): _____ Time: _____

Attendees Expected: _____



SECURITY INFORMATION

Security Company Name: _____

Security Company Phone Number: _____

Security Contact Person Name: _____

Security Contact Person Phone Number: _____

How many per day #:

How will boundaries of the festival location be marked:

Type of Entertainment (Attach Schedule/Calendar of Events):

CLERK OFFICE USE ONLY

The foregoing application has been examined and the premises, business conducted and character of the applicant is satisfactory.

Local Licensing Authority: _____

Date Notice was provided to Local Licensing Authority: _____

Signature: _____

Title: _____ Date (MM/DD/YY): _____



The Applicant hereby attests and affirms that the following are true: (Check the circle)

- The application packet contains participants and that at least one of those participants holds a current liquor license, whose facility is located in the City of Rifle.
- The applicant and all festival participants hold City of Rifle permanent or temporary sales tax/business license accounts and will post those in public view.
- All food vendors must be in compliance with Garfield County Health - 970-625-5200.
- Any amplified noise permits have been issued or application has been made.
- There are no previous histories of liquor violations in the past 3 yrs. by the applicant or festival participants for level three violations. As defined by 1 C.C.R. 203-2 Reg. 47-603 D.
- No alcohol containers are allowed to be brought onto or removed from the premises by consumers. This includes opened, sealed and indifferent of being allowed by State Law to those with a take-out and delivery permit.
- The person purchasing, holding, or consuming alcohol beverages will be properly I.D. checked, with a required bracelet being given to them. They shall be over the age of 21 yrs., and shall not be intoxicated or a habitual drunkard.
- All alcohol vendors shall have snacks and/or food available for sale or free to the public, during all festival hours.
- All alcohol service personnel have been server/seller trained in T.I.P.S or by another approved alcohol class training vendor. Certificates must be attached.
- The Festival must be completed, and all attendees out of the premises by 10pm.
- Applicant acknowledges that fines can be up to \$1000 per event, in aggregate if no one entity is found in violation of liquor laws or rules and \$500 per event, if one entity is found, and that the permit holder can be held solely responsible.
- Applicant acknowledges that the City of Rifle City Clerk or Liquor License Authority Board may include or promulgate additional terms or conditions to address local or special concerns.

The Applicant (Primary Sponsor) hereby applies to the City of Rifle Liquor Licensing Authority (LLA) for the following Alcohol Beverage Festival Permit and pays the non-refundable fee of

\$200.00 (City of Rifle licensee) or \$500.00 (Non-City of Rifle Licensee)

Total fee: \$ _____

Date: _____

Applicant Signature: _____ Print Name: _____



Complete List of Participating Businesses (Attach a separate sheet if needed)

Name		Email	
License Number		License Type	
Person Responsible			Phone Number
Name		Email	
License Number		License Type	
Person Responsible			Phone Number
Name		Email	
License Number		License Type	
Person Responsible			Phone Number
Name		Email	
License Number		License Type	
Person Responsible			Phone Number
Name		Email	
License Number		License Type	
Person Responsible			Phone Number
Name		Email	
License Number		License Type	
Person Responsible			Phone Number
Oath Of Applicant			
I declare under penalty of perjury in the second degree that this application and all attachments are true, correct, and complete to the best of my knowledge. I also know that it is my responsibility and the responsibility of my agents and employees to comply with the provisions of Articles 3, 4, and 5 of Title 44, Colorado Revised Statutes, as amended Along with the Ordinances and Resolutions of the City of Rifle, insofar as the same may be applicable which affect my license or permit.			
Authorized Signature		Print Name	
Title			Date



City of Rifle Control Plan Guidelines

These guidelines are being provided as a reference to help assist applicants in providing a control plan for alcohol beverage festival applicants and participants alike.

Note: Each item of the control plan should be given in a detailed description of the process. Attach a separate sheet.

Boundary of requested premises: Describe and list the details of the premises (show bars, service stations, etc., including the boundary and how the permittee will control the requested premises. Acceptable control features include temporary fencing, stanchions, visible chains, or rope to mark the area. Provide a bold, outlined diagram.

Proper Signage: These to include minor warning signs, no alcohol beverages past this point, and no outside alcohol beverages allowed past this point. Size of signage required as listed in C.R.S. 44-3-901(10)(a)(II)(A)

Ingress and Egress: Describe the control of persons arriving and leaving (ingress and egress) the festival, this to include making sure alcohol is not brought onto or removed from the premises. Are there going to be bag checks, clear bag requirements, etc.?

Hours of Operation: Detail the hours of operation for the premises and what action will be taken to cease alcohol sales prior to closing. Hours of Festival event cannot go past 10pm.

On-Premises Security-ID: List the security group or company that will be provided by you, for the event. Describe in detail the I.D. check process, **submit** certification that those individuals checking I.D.'s are properly T.I.P.S. trained, and when the I.D. checks are approved, what type of wrist bracelets will be placed on the customers. List at least one licensed permittee or participant manager who will be on-site through-out the festival date(s) or time(s).

Proper Zoning: All locations must be properly zoned and in compliance with local zoning, health rules, and building codes; these to include sanitary toilets on premises. (see below)

Reminder: Separate permit, application and fees are required for each festival event date. The festival permit is specific and distinct and cannot be transferred to any other organization, nor may any other person or organization exercise the privileges of said permit, directly or indirectly.

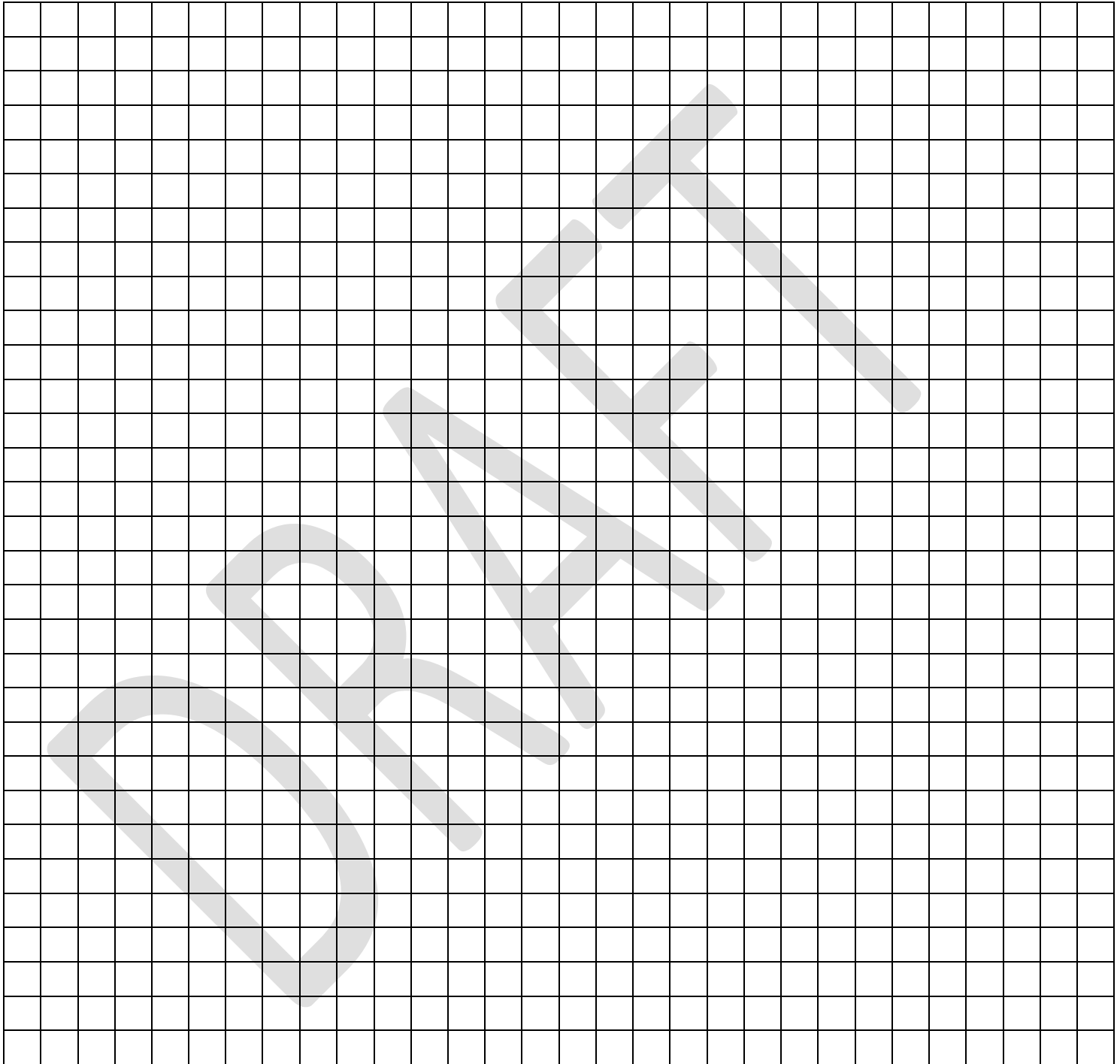


CONTROL PLAN SHEET:

DRAFT



DIAGRAM OF PREMISES



Festival Permit Application

This permit is only available for the following license types:

- Beer and Wine license;
- Hotel and Restaurant license;
- Tavern license;
- Brew Pub license;
- Vintner's Restaurant license;
- Distillery Pub license;
- Manufacturer's license (beer, wine, or spirits);
- Wholesaler's license; or
- Limited Wineries

Initial Application – \$50.00 Processing Fee

Subsequent Festival Application - \$50.00 per festival (9 total allowed per **calendar year**, per permittee)

Note - An authorized participating licensee can participate in up to 52 festivals in a calendar year.

Legal Business Name

Trade Name/DBA Name

License Number

License Type

Sales Tax Number

Business Phone Number

Email Address

Premises Address

City State ZIP Code

Mailing Address

City State ZIP Code

Festival Location

Date(s) of Festival

What are the hours of alcohol service during each festival date(s)? (1 festival can be no more than 72 hours)

Attach a copy of Premises Use Authorization Letter or Lease

Control Plan Attestation

I affirm that there are no Temporary Salesrooms at the festival's location, date, and time. Temporary Salesrooms on a festival's premises may result in the denial of the Festival Permit.

I affirm that I have attached a Security and Control plan that has been circulated and agreed upon by all participating licensees.

Applicant's Signature

Date (MM/DD/YY)

--	--

Licensing Authority Signature

Object Do Not Object

Local Licensing Authority Contact Name

Phone Number

List of participating businesses (Attach a separate sheet if needed)

Name

License Number

License Type

Person Responsible

Phone Number

Name

License Number

License Type

Person Responsible

Phone Number

Name

License Number

License Type

Person Responsible

Phone Number

Oath Of Applicant

I declare under penalty of perjury in the second degree that this application and all attachments are true, correct, and complete to the best of my knowledge. I also know that it is my responsibility and the responsibility of my agents and employees to comply with the provisions of the Colorado Liquor or Beer and Wine Code and Colorado Liquor Rules which affect my license or permit.

Signature

Title

Date (MM/DD/YY)

Report And Approval of Local Licensing Authority (City/County)

The foregoing application has been examined and the premises, business conducted and character of the applicant is satisfactory.

Local Licensing Authority (City or County)

Date Notice was provided to Local Licensing Authority

Signature

Title

Date (MM/DD/YY)

During this festival alcohol will only be sold by the participating alcohol beverage holders (Check all that apply)

In open containers for on-premises consumption

In sealed containers for off-premises consumption

Notice To Local Licensing Authority

This application for a festival permit will be granted to the above named applicant unless any of the below listed conditions apply. If any of these conditions apply please contact the state licensing authority immediately.

The applicant has not provided you with at least 30 calendar days notice of the proposed festival

Past festivals have had a history of violation of the Colorado Liquor Code or Colorado Liquor Rules or violations of local ordinances

If granted, this permit would result in violations of the Colorado Liquor Code or Colorado Liquor Rules, or the laws of the local government

If the Local Licensing Authority objects, provide a separate page with details of the objection.

Report of State Licensing Authority

Signature

Title

Date (MM/DD/YY)



Agenda Item #c.

Agenda Item Name:

Discussion on Police Chief Search

Presenter:

Patrick Waller, City Manager

Item Description:

Police Chief Search

Recommended Action:

No action on Workshop Item

Fiscal Impact:

N/A

Operational Impact:

N/A

Prior Board Motions:

N/A

Background Information:

N/A

Executive Summary:

City Manager will provide an update regarding Police Chief search process.

Notification Requirements:

No additional notice required.

Prepared By:

Patrick Waller, City Manager

Attachments:

None



Agenda Item #d.

Agenda Item Name:

Review Draft Strategic Planning Agenda

Presenter:

Patrick Waller, City Manager

Item Description:

Request for Input from City Council

Recommended Action:

No action on Workshop Items. Request for input on Strategic Planning Agenda

Fiscal Impact:

N/A

Operational Impact:

N/A

Prior Board Motions:

N/A

Background Information:

N/A

Executive Summary:

Per Section 3.12 of the City Charter: "The Council shall to hold at least annually a strategic planning session with department heads and key employees to review, confirm and modify a vision statement, mission statement and goal statements of the City. (Ord. 10 §3, 2013)" This year, Strategic Planning has been scheduled for April 3rd and 4th.

The City Manager has prepared a Draft Agenda for Council's review.

Notification Requirements:

No additional notice required

Prepared By:

Patrick Waller, City Manager

Attachments:

1. DRAFT - Rifle Strategic Planning Agenda

Rifle Strategic Planning Agenda

Date & Time: Friday, April 3, 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM
Saturday, April 4, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM (if needed)
Location: Grand River Hospital

Agenda – Friday April 3

9:00 – 9:05 Welcome

Review of Agenda and Goals

9:05 – 11:00 Organizational Snapshot: Strengths, Capacity & Outlook

Department Heads provide high-level strategic updates focused on:

- Major accomplishments and measurable outcomes
- Current operational capacity
- Key risks and emerging trends
- Opportunities requiring Council awareness

Interactive Council dialogue following presentations

11:00 – 11:15 Break

11:15 – 12:00 Citywide Organizational Opportunities and Challenges

City Manager led discussion of organization wide opportunities and challenges

12:00 – 12:30 Lunch

12:30 – 2:00 Council Group Discussion With Department Heads

Potential Discussion Topics:

- Street Fund Projections
- Activity Center
- Golf Course
- City's Role in Economic Development

2:00 – 2:30 Reconfirmation of Mission, Vision, and Goals

Check-in with Council to ensure that Mission, Vision, and Goals are still aligned

2:30 – 4:00 Open Council Discussion with City Manager

Discussion of Council Priorities

Additional Discussion as Needed for Saturday from 9:00 – 12:00

Goals of Strategic Planning 2026

- Develop an understanding from Department Heads what has been accomplished in the last year and plans for moving forward
- Council gains insight into responsibilities of City Staff
- Understanding from City Council Members on what they see as City priorities
- Check-in on Mission, Vision, and Values

Adopted Mission, Vision, Core Values, and Strategic Goals

Vision: The vision of the City of Rifle is to cultivate a resilient community, preserving our hometown values while fostering economic diversity and responsible growth.

Mission: The mission of the City of Rifle is to maintain a strong community by providing quality services with integrity.

Core Values: Integrity, Respect, Resiliency, and Transparency

Strategic Goals: Organizational Excellence, Core Services, Quality of Life, Economic Development



Agenda Item #5.a.

Agenda Item Name:

Consider Minutes of the February 18, 2026 Regular Meeting

Presenter:

Alexis Ramirez, City Clerk

Item Description:

Consider Minutes of the February 18, 2026 Regular Meeting

Recommended Action:

Move to approve the minutes of the February 18, 2026, City Council Regular Meeting

Fiscal Impact:

N/A

Operational Impact:

N/A

Prior Board Motions:

N/A

Background Information:

N/A

Executive Summary:

Minutes of the February 18, 2026, Regular Meeting

Notification Requirements:

N/A

Prepared By:

Alexis Ramirez, City Clerk

Attachments:

1. 02.18.2026 DRAFT Minutes



RIFLE CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

February 18, 2026
7:00 p.m.
202 Railroad Avenue Rifle, CO

CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

A regular meeting of the Rifle City Council was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Clint Hostettler.

Present at Roll Call:

Councilor Alicia Gresley, Councilor Michael Clancy, Mayor Clint Hostettler, Councilor Jonathan Rice and Councilor Karen Roberts.

Roll Call: Yes – Alicia Gresley, Michael Clancy, Clint Hostettler, Jonathan Rice and Karen Roberts.

No – None.

Councilor Michael Clancy moved to excuse Councilor Chris Bornholdt and Councilor Scott Marsh from tonight's meeting; seconded by Councilor Alicia Gresley.

Roll Call: Yes - Clint Hostettler, Michael Clancy, Karen Roberts, Alicia Gresley and Jonathan Rice.

No – None.

Others Present:

City Manager Patrick Waller, City Clerk Alexis Ramirez, City Attorney Jim Neu, Parks & Recreation Director Austin Rickstrew, Finance Director Scott Rust, Chief of Police Debra Funston, Lieutenant Mike Kuper, Rifle Police Department and Families, Community Development Director Zach Higgins, Planner Geir Sverdrup, Senior & Event Center Director Tami Sours, Ute Manager Patrick Duprey, Procurement & Grant Reporting Manager Iris Trevisano, Community TV/Multimedia Manager Michael Churchill, Gen Edwards, Leslie Robinson and Thad Porter.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comments were heard from Leslie Robinson and Thad Porter.

CONSENT AGENDA – CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

- A. Consider Minutes of the February 4, 2026 Regular Meeting
- B. Consider Letter of Support for Town of Silt BUILD Grant Application - 7th Street Pedestrian Overpass

Councilor Jonathan Rice moved to approve Consent Agenda Items A and B; seconded by Councilor Alicia Gresley.

Roll Call: Yes - Karen Roberts, Clint Hostettler, Jonathan Rice, Alicia Gresley and Michael Clancy.

No – None.

CONSENT AGENDA – Item Opened for Discussion

C. Consider Acceptance of the Sherwin-Williams Annexation Petition as Substantially Compliant with State Statutes and Scheduling a Public Hearing - Resolution No. 7, Series of 2026

City Attorney Jim Neu presented a request to consider the Sherwin-Williams annexation petition as substantially compliant with state statutes and the need to schedule a public hearing. City Attorney Jim Neu clarified that the resolution is a statutory formality confirming that the annexation petition contains all required elements to grant the City jurisdiction to consider the request. The property is not currently within city limits; therefore, this action establishes the City's land use jurisdiction and allows the Planning Commission to review the annexation at its March meeting. An annexation map was referenced, identifying the property location on the south side of Airport Road, across from Enterprise Court. The request pertains to Lot 1, which comprises a portion of the overall property. City Attorney Jim Neu clarified that Resolution No. 7, Series of 2026, included in the packet was revised to add the required public hearing date of April 15, 2026, as mandated by state statute.

Councilor Karen Roberts moved to approve Consent Agenda item 5C. Resolution No. 7, Series of 2026; seconded by Councilor Alicia Gresley.

Roll Call: Yes – Jonathan Rice, Alicia Gresley, Clint Hostettler, Michael Clancy and Karen Roberts.

No – None.

PRESENTATION

Pinning Ceremony for Corporal Promotions

Chief of Police Debra Funston presented Officer Josh Allison and Officer Hailey Crow for Corporal promotions. Chief explained the meaning behind a law enforcement pinning ceremony; emphasizing a proud, symbolic tradition that celebrates a major career milestone and represents either the swearing-in of a new officer or the promotion of an existing one. The badge represents a solemn promise to serve with honor, integrity, and dedication. Chief Funston highlighted the important role of loved ones, mentors, and colleagues in an officer's journey. The ceremony is a celebration of courage, service, leadership, and the vital support offered by family and community.

The pinning for Corporal Josh Allison was performed by his wife, Jenna and daughter Sadie.

The pinning for Corporal Hailey Crow was performed by her husband Ben.

Comments were heard from Mayor Clint Hostettler.

PUBLIC HEARING

Consider Amending the 2026 Budget - Supplemental Appropriations Request #1

RESOLUTION NO. 9, SERIES OF 2026

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RIFLE, COLORADO,
AMENDING THE CITY'S BUDGET FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2026**

ORDINANCE NO. 6, SERIES OF 2026 (1st Reading)
AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF RIFLE, COLORADO, PROVIDING
FOR SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE BUDGET
YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2026.

Mayor Clint Hostettler opened the public hearing.

Public Notice was met.

Finance Director Scott Rust presented a request to amend the 2026 budget and approve supplemental appropriations to address additional expenditures for projects approved throughout the year that were not included in the original adopted budget. Finance Director Scott Rust explained how City Council adopts the annual budget by resolution and appropriation ordinance at the fund level, and any amendments or supplemental appropriations must also be approved by resolution and ordinance. Budget amendments are required to address increased operational costs, new projects, or carryforward of prior-year capital funds. In this instance, certain projects were not included in the original 2026 budget, requiring an amendment to ensure compliance with governmental accounting standards and state law. The proposed amendments reflect a net increase of \$1,514,350 in revenues and a \$3,494,143 increase in expenditures across the reporting entity. Following the amendment, total revenues would be \$50,082,384, and total appropriations (expenditures) would be \$63,198,636. A detailed table outlining the specific adjustments is included in Resolution No. 9, Series of 2026 and Ordinance No. 6, Series of 2026.

No public comment was heard.

Mayor Clint Hostettler closed the public hearing.

Comments heard from Councilor Jonathan Rice and Councilor Alicia Gresley.

Councilor Michael Clancy moved to approve Resolution No. 9, Series of 2026 to amend the 2026 budget and Ordinance No. 6, Series of 2026 to adopt supplemental appropriations for 2026 budget on first and only reading; seconded by Councilor Karen Roberts.

Roll Call: Yes – Clint Hostettler, Karen Roberts, Michael Clancy, Alicia Gresley and Jonathan Rice.

No – None.

Consider Amending Article 3 of Chapter 16 of the Rifle Municipal Code to Amend Building Height Standards - Ordinance No. 3, Series of 2026 (1st Reading)

ORDINANCE NO. 3, SERIES OF 2026
AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF RIFLE, COLORADO, AMENDING
ARTICLE 3 OF CHAPTER 16 OF THE RIFLE MUNICIPAL CODE TO AMEND
BUILDING HEIGHT STANDARDS

Mayor Clint Hostettler opened the public hearing.

Public Notice was met.

Planner Geir Sverdrup and Community Development Director Zach Higgins presented a request

Rifle City Council Meeting February 18, 2026

to consider amending Article 3 of Chapter 16 of the Rifle Municipal Code to amend building height standards – Ordinance No. 3, Series of 2026 on first reading. The proposed amendment focuses on the method used to measure building height during plan review. Currently, building height is measured around the entire structure, similar to placing a uniform plane over the property at the maximum allowable height; if any portion of the structure exceeds that plane, it is considered too tall. The proposed change would measure height from the front plane of the building, using the lower of existing or finished grade. Staff noted this revision would provide additional flexibility for builders and developers in designing structures when a lot is sloped while maintaining overall height limitations. Planning Commission provided recommendation for approval at their January 27th, 2026 regular meeting.

No public comment was heard.

Planner Geir Sverdrup and Community Development Director Zach Higgins answered questions for Council.

Mayor Clint Hostettler closed the public hearing.

Comments heard from Councilor Michael Clancy.

Councilor Alicia Gresley moved to amend Article 3 of Chapter 16 of the Rifle Municipal Code to amend building height standards - Ordinance No. 3, Series of 2026 on first reading as presented and order it to be published as required by Charter; seconded by Councilor Jonathan Rice.

Roll Call: Yes – Jonathan Rice, Alicia Gresley, Michael Clancy, Clint Hostettler, and Karen Roberts.

No – None.

Consider Amending Article 3 of Chapter 16 of the Rifle Municipal Code to Amend Lot Size Standards - Ordinance No. 4, Series of 2026 (1st Reading)

ORDINANCE NO. 4, SERIES OF 2026
AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF RIFLE, COLORADO, AMENDING
ARTICLE 3 OF CHAPTER 16 OF THE RIFLE MUNICIPAL CODE
TO AMEND LOT SIZE STANDARDS

Mayor Clint Hostettler opened the public hearing.

Public Notice was met.

Planner Geir Sverdrup and Community Development Director Zach Higgins presented a request to consider amending Article 3 of Chapter 16 of the Rifle Municipal Code to amend lot size standards – Ordinance No. 4, Series of 2026 on first reading. Staff presented a cleanup amendment to clarify minimum lot size requirements in the code. Under the current language, any single-family home is required to meet the minimum lot size. However, attached housing types such as townhomes and condominiums typically occupy only their building footprint and do not meet the individual lot size requirement.

The proposed amendment would add the term “single-family detached” to the applicable table,

Rifle City Council Meeting February 18, 2026

thereby excluding attached units (e.g., townhomes and condominiums) from the minimum lot size requirement.

Staff noted this change formalizes the City’s existing practice and allows continued development of attached housing products without conflict with the code. City Manager Patrick Waller further explained that a similar amendment was made in commercial zoning districts approximately two to three years ago. This update reflects the ongoing, iterative process of refining the code as issues are identified. Planning Commission provided recommendation for approval at their January 27th, 2026, regular meeting.

No public comment was heard.

Planner Geir Sverdrup and Community Development Director Zach Higgins answered questions for Council.

Mayor Clint Hostettler closed the public hearing.

Councilor Jonathan Rice moved to amend Article 3 of Chapter 16 of the Rifle Municipal Code to amend lot size standards – Ordinance No. 4, Series of 2026 on first reading as presented and order it to be published as required by Charter; seconded by Councilor Karen Roberts.

Roll Call: Yes – Michael Clancy, Jonathan Rice, Alicia Gresley, Karen Roberts and Clint Hostettler.

No – None.

Consider Amending Article 3 of Chapter 16 of the Rifle Municipal Code to Amend Landscaping Standards - Ordinance No. 5, Series of 2026 (1st Reading)

ORDINANCE NO. 5, SERIES OF 2026
AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF RIFLE, COLORADO, AMENDING
ARTICLE 3 OF CHAPTER 16 OF THE RIFLE MUNICIPAL CODE
TO AMEND LANDSCAPING STANDARDS

Mayor Clint Hostettler opened the public hearing.

Public Notice was met.

Planner Geir Sverdrup and Community Development Director Zach Higgins presented request to consider amending Article 3 of Chapter 16 of the Rifle Municipal Code to amend landscaping standards – Ordinance No. 5, Series of 2026 on first reading. Staff presented a proposed code amendment to comply with recent state legislation, including Senate Bill 24-005 and House Bill 25-1113, which require municipalities to adopt “water-wise” landscaping standards. The legislation mandates restrictions on nonfunctional turf and encourages the use of climate-adapted grasses and drought-tolerant plant materials. Staff noted that City of Rifle has already been encouraging these practices, and several recent developments. The proposed code changes would bring the City into compliance with state requirements, including SP-5 standards, which were to be adopted by January 1st of this year. All recommended revisions have been incorporated into the proposed amendment.

No public comment was heard.

Mayor Clint Hostettler closed the public hearing.

Comments heard from Councilor Alicia Gresley and Councilor Michael Clancy.

Councilor Alicia Gresley moved to amend Article 3 of Chapter 16 of the Rifle Municipal Code to amend landscaping standards - Ordinance No. 5, Series of 2026 on first reading as presented and order it to be published as required by Charter; seconded by Councilor Michael Clancy.

Roll Call: Yes - Alicia Gresley, Michael Clancy, Jonathan Rice, Clint Hostettler and Karen Roberts.

No – None.

REGULAR AGENDA

Consider Appointment of Gen Edwards (Second Alternate) to the Rifle Planning and Zoning Commission

Community Development Director Zach Higgins presented Gen Edwards to Council; to serve as a second alternate on the Rifle Planning and Zoning Commission. Alternate positions for the City's Planning and Zoning Commission ensure smooth operations in the instance regular members are unable to attend meetings as well as providing for succession planning. Gen Edwards met with the Planning and Zoning Commission during their January 27th, 2026, workshop meeting. Gen Edwards provided Council a little background information on who she is and her desire to serve the community through the Rifle Planning and Zoning Commission.

Comments were heard from Mayor Clint Hostettler, Councilor Jonthan Rice, Councilor Michael Clancy and Councilor Alicia Gresley.

Councilor Alicia Gresley moved to approve the appointment of Gen Edwards as Second Alternate to the Rifle Planning and Zoning Commission; seconded by Councilor Karen Roberts.

Roll Call: Yes – Clint Hostettler, Karen Roberts, Alicia Gresley, Michael Clancy, and Jonathan Rice.

No – None.

Consider Awarding Centennial Park Restoration Design to River Restoration, LLC.

Parks and Recreation Director Austin Rickstrew and Procurement and Grant Reporting Manager Iris Trevisano presented a request to consider awarding the Centennial Park restoration design to River Restoration, LLC. The proposed Centennial Park channel improvements directly support the goals identified in the Rifle Creek Restoration Implementation Plan. The project addresses key issues within the corridor, including the incised channel condition, invasive vegetation, excessive sediment loads, and existing flood risks. These improvements are essential to restoring ecological function, improving channel stability, and reducing long-term maintenance needs and infrastructure impacts. The Middle Colorado Watershed Council presented the project to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board (PRAB), which recommended support of the project. An RFP for Centennial Park Restoration Design services was publicly advertised through BidNet Direct, with proposals due January 29, 2026. Five proposals were received, ranging from \$43,400 to \$60,000.

Following a thorough and competitive review process, the evaluation committee reached

Rifle City Council Meeting February 18, 2026

consensus that River Restoration, LLC. met all the criteria and was the most qualified firm to proceed. Project was included in the 2026 city budget, with additional contributions from partners such as EcoPoint. Staff recommends awarding the Centennial Park Restoration Design to River Restoration, LLC. in the amount of \$47,411.00.

Comments were heard from Councilor Michael Clancy and Mayor Clint Hostettler.

Parks and Recreation Director Austin Rickstrew and Procurement and Grant Reporting Manager Iris Trevisano answered questions for Council.

Councilor Karen Roberts moved to approve River Restoration, LLC. for the Centennial Park restoration design in an amount not to exceed \$47,411.00; seconded by Councilor Jonthan Rice.

Roll Call: Yes – Jonathan Rice, Alicia Gresley, Clint Hostettler and Karen Roberts.

Recused – Michael Clancy.

Consider Liquor License Report of Changes for City of Rifle dba Ute Theater and Events Center

Senior & Event Center Director Tami Sours and Ute Manager Patrick Duprey presented a request to consider the liquor license report of changes application for City of Rifle dba Ute Theater and Events Center. The report of changes application is submitted to request a temporary modification to the premise for potential outdoor use by the venue, this will expand the liquor license area onto 4th Street from April 30th, 2026 through December 31, 2026. This is an annual request that requires City Council's approval before it is sent to the Colorado Liquor Enforcement Division for approval. The application is complete and all fees have been paid.

Comments were heard from Mayor Clint Hostettler.

Councilor Michael Clancy moved to approve the Liquor License Report of Changes application for the City of Rifle dba Ute Theater and Event Center as presented with new start date of April 30, 2026 through December 31, 2026; seconded by Councilor Alicia Gresley.

Roll Call: Yes – Clint Hostettler, Karen Roberts, Michael Clancy, Alicia Gresley and Jonathan Rice.

No – None.

Consider Authorizing Submission of the Garfield County FMLD Mini-Grant Application for a Detective Vehicle - Resolution No. 6, Series of 2026

RESOLUTION NO. 6, SERIES OF 2026

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RIFLE, COLORADO, SUPPORTING A MINI GRANT APPLICATION TO THE GARFIELD COUNTY FEDERAL MINERAL LEASE DISTRICT FOR A RIFLE POLICE DEPARTMENT DETECTIVE VEHICLE.

Procurement and Grant Reporting Manager Iris Trevisano presented a request to consider authorizing staff to submit the Garfield County FMLD Mini-Grant application for the purchase of a detective vehicle for the Rifle Police Department – Resolution No. 6, Series of 2026.

The current vehicle, a 2012 Ford Escape with approximately 128,000 miles, was originally a used

Rifle City Council Meeting February 18, 2026

purchase and is requiring increasingly frequent repairs, making it no longer economical to maintain. Replacing the vehicle will support the Police Department's aging fleet and ensure continued operational readiness. The grant is a no-match opportunity. Approval of Resolution No. 6, Series of 2026, authorizes the City Manager to sign the grant agreement and to expend funds necessary to meet the terms of the grant, not to exceed \$30,000.

Comments were heard from Mayor Clint Hostettler, Councilor Michael Clancy and Councilor Alicia Gresley.

City Manager Patrick Waller answered questions for Council.

Councilor Alicia Gresley moved to allow staff to submit the Mini-grant application to GCFMLD for the purchase of a Detective Vehicle, City Manager to sign the grant agreement and to expend the funds necessary to meet the terms of the grant not to exceed \$30,000 - Resolution No. 6, Series of 2026; seconded by Councilor Jonthan Rice.

Roll Call: Yes – Karen Roberts, Michael Clancy, Clint Hostettler, Alicia Gresley and Jonathan Rice.

No – None.

Consider Electing Not to Participate in the Requirements of House Bill 24 - 1173 Regarding Electrical Vehicle Charging Station Permitting Processes and Standards - Resolution No. 8, Series of 2026

RESOLUTION NO. 8, SERIES OF 2026

**A RESOLUTION OF THE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RIFLE,
COLORADO, ELECTING TO OPT OUT OF THE REQUIREMENTS OF
HOUSE BILL 24-1173 REGARDING ELECTRICAL VEHICLE CHARGING
STATION PERMITTING PROCESSES AND STANDARDS**

Community Development Director Zach Higgins presented a request to consider not to participate in the requirements of House Bill 24-1173 regarding electrical vehicle charging station permitting processes and standards - Resolution No. 8, Series of 2026. House Bill 24-1173, Electric Vehicle Charging System Permits Law, establishes new requirements related to local land use permitting for EV charging projects. Municipalities with populations of 10,000 or more are required to take one of three actions by December 31, 2025: adopt the permitting processes and standards from the EV Charging Model Land Use Code; adopt the permitting processes and standards prescribed in HB24-1173; or adopt an ordinance or resolution opting out of revising existing land use codes.

Item was discussed at the regular workshop meeting held on November 5th, 2025. Resolution No. 8, Series of 2026, formally elects not to participate in the additional permitting requirements outlined in HB24-1173. Adoption of the resolution satisfies the State's compliance requirement and allows the City to continue utilizing its existing EV charging station permitting process, which has been considered efficient and effective. The process may be amended in the future if necessary. The City will still be required to submit a compliance report to the Colorado Energy Office by March 1, 2026, and an outcomes report by January 31, 2027, as mandated by the legislation.

Comments heard from Councilor Alicia Gresley and Mayor Clint Hostettler.

Councilor Jonathan Rice moved to approve electing not to participate in the requirements of House

Bill 24 - 1173 regarding electrical vehicle charging station permitting processes and standards - Resolution No. 8, Series of 2026; seconded by Councilor Karen Roberts.
Roll Call: Yes – Clint Hostettler, Karen Roberts, Jonathan Rice, Michael Clancy and Alicia Gresley.
No – None.

Report to City Manager

Report was heard from City Manager Patrick Waller and Community Development Director Zach Higgins.

Comments from Mayor and Council

Comments were heard from Councilor Michael Clancy, Councilor Alicia Gresley, Councilor Karen Roberts, Councilor Jonathan Rice and Mayor Clint Hostettler.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8:26 p.m.

Alexis Ramirez
City Clerk

Clint Hostettler
Mayor



Agenda Item #5.b.

Agenda Item Name:

Consider Liquor License Renewal for Kum & Go, LC dba Maverik 5031

Presenter:

Alexis Ramirez, City Clerk

Item Description:

Consider Liquor License Renewal for Kum & Go, LC dba Maverik 5031

Recommended Action:

Move to approve the Liquor License Renewal for Kum & Go, LC dba Maverik 5031.

Fiscal Impact:

N/A

Operational Impact:

N/A

Prior Board Motions:

N/A

Background Information:

Kum & Go, LC dba Maverik 5031 is located at 705 Taughenbaugh Blvd. Rifle, CO has submitted a Fermented Malt Beverage & Wine (off-premise) Liquor License Renewal Application.

The application is complete and the appropriate fees have been paid.

Executive Summary:

N/A

Notification Requirements:

N/A

Prepared By:

Alexis Ramirez, City Clerk

Attachments:

1. REDACTED- 2026 KUM & GO - Maverik 5031 Liquor License Renewal application

DR 8400 (05/05/25)
COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE
 Liquor Enforcement Division
 PO BOX 17087
 Denver CO 80217-0087
 (303) 205-2300

Submit to Local Licensing Authority

RECEIVED

FEB 19 2026

City Clerk
 City of Rifle

Fees Due	
Annual Renewal Application Fee	\$ 250
Renewal Fee	
Storage Permit \$100 X _____	\$
Sidewalk Service Area \$75.00	\$
Additional Optional Premises Hotel & Restaurant \$100 X _____	\$
Related Facility - Campus Liquor Complex \$160.00 per facility	\$
Amount Due/Paid	\$

Make check payable to: Colorado Department of Revenue. The State may convert your check to a one-time electronic banking transaction. Your bank account may be debited as early as the same day received by the State. If converted, your check will not be returned. If your check is rejected due to insufficient or uncollected funds, the Department may collect the payment amount directly from your banking account electronically.

Retail Liquor License Renewal Application

Please verify & update all information below. Return to city or county licensing authority by due date.

Note that the Division will not accept cash.

Paid by check

Uploaded to MoveIt on Date

Paid online

Licensee Name

Kum & Go LC

Doing Business As Name (DBA)

Maverik 5031

Liquor License Number

License Type

Fermented Malt Beverage and Wine (City)

Sales Tax License Number

Expiration Date

Due Date

Business Address

Street Address

Phone Number

City

State

ZIP Code

Mailing Address

Street Address

City

State

ZIP Code

Email

Operating Manager

Date of Birth

[Empty text box for Operating Manager name]

[Empty text box for Date of Birth]

Home Address

Street Address

Phone Number

[Empty text box for Street Address]

[Empty text box for Phone Number]

City

State

ZIP Code

[Empty text box for City]

CO

[Empty text box for ZIP Code]

1. Do you have legal possession of the premises at the street address?..... Yes No

Are the premises owned or rented? Owned

*If rented, expiration date of lease

Rented*

[Empty text box for expiration date of lease]

2. Are you renewing a storage permit, additional optional premises, sidewalk service area, or related facility?..... Yes No

If yes, please see the table in the upper right hand corner and include all fees due.

3. Are you renewing a takeout and/or delivery permit?..... Yes No

(Note: must hold a qualifying license type and be authorized for takeout and/or delivery license privileges)

If selecting 'Yes', an additional \$11.00 is required to renew the permit.

If so, which are you renewing?..... Delivery Takeout Both Takeout and Delivery

4. Since the date of filing of the last application, has the applicant, including its manager, partners, officer, directors, stockholders, members (LLC), managing members (LLC), or any other person with a 10% or greater financial interest in the applicant, been found in final order of a tax agency to be delinquent in the payment of any state or local taxes, penalties, or interest related to a business?.... Yes No

Since the date of filing of the last application, has the applicant, including its manager, partners, officer, directors, stockholders, members (LLC), managing members (LLC), or any other person with a 10% or greater financial interest in the applicant failed to pay any fees or surcharges imposed pursuant to section 44-3-503, C.R.S.?..... Yes No

5. Since the date of filing of the last application, has there been any change in financial interest (new notes, loans, owners, etc.) or organizational structure (addition or deletion of officers, directors, managing members or general partners)?..... Yes No

If yes, explain in detail and attach a listing of all liquor businesses in which these new lenders, owners (other than licensed financial institutions), officers, directors, managing members, or general partners are materially interested.

6. Since the date of filing of the last application, has the applicant or any of its agents, owners, managers, partners or lenders (other than licensed financial institutions) been convicted of a crime?..... Yes No

If yes, attach a detailed explanation.

7. Since the date of filing of the last application, has the applicant or any of its agents, owners, managers, partners or lenders (other than licensed financial institutions) been denied an alcohol beverage license, had an alcohol beverage license suspended or revoked, or had interest in any entity that had an alcohol beverage license denied, suspended or revoked?..... Yes No

If yes, attach a detailed explanation.

See attached violations

8. Does the applicant or any of its agents, owners, managers, partners or lenders (other than licensed financial institutions) have a direct or indirect interest in any other Colorado liquor license, including loans to or from any licensee or interest in a loan to any licensee?..... Yes No

If yes, attach a detailed explanation.

See attached locations

9. I would like to apply for a Two-Year Renewal..... Yes No

Affirmation & Consent

I declare under penalty of perjury in the second degree that this application and all attachments are true, correct and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Type or Print Name of Applicant/Authorized Agent of Business

Title

Signature

Date (MM/DD/YY)

Report & Approval of City or County Licensing Authority

The foregoing application has been examined and the premises, business conducted and character of the applicant are satisfactory, and we do hereby report that such license, if granted, will comply with the provisions of Title 44, Articles 4 and 3, C.R.S., and Liquor Rules.

Therefore this application is approved.

Local Licensing Authority For

Title	Attest
Signature	Date (MM/DD/YY)

Local Licensing Authority Approves this license for a two-year renewal..... Yes No

If "No", please cite the law, regulation, local ordinance or resolution that gives the local licensing authority the ability to deny the applicant and grounds for denial. Also, please provide any and all investigative reports, and administrative or criminal action that relate or justify this denial.

Proof of Violation

--

Tax Check Authorization, Waiver, and Request to Release Information

I,

am signing this Tax Check Authorization, Waiver and Request to Release Information (hereinafter "Waiver") on behalf of

(the "Applicant/Licensee")

Kum & Go LC/Maverik 5031

to permit the Colorado Department of Revenue and any other state or local taxing authority to release information and documentation that may otherwise be confidential, as provided below. If I am signing this Waiver for someone other than myself, including on behalf of a business entity, I certify that I have the authority to execute this Waiver on behalf of the Applicant/Licensee.

The Executive Director of the Colorado Department of Revenue is the State Licensing Authority, and oversees the Colorado Liquor Enforcement Division as his or her agents, clerks, and employees. The information and documentation obtained pursuant to this Waiver may be used in connection with the Applicant/Licensee's liquor license application and ongoing licensure by the state and local licensing authorities. The Colorado Liquor Code, section 44-3-101. et seq. ("Liquor Code"), and the Colorado Liquor Rules, 1 CCR 203-2 ("Liquor Rules"), require compliance with certain tax obligations, and set forth the investigative, disciplinary and licensure actions the state and local licensing authorities may take for violations of the Liquor Code and Liquor Rules, including failure to meet tax reporting and payment obligations.

The Waiver is made pursuant to section 39-21-113(4), C.R.S., and any other law, regulation, resolution or ordinance concerning the confidentiality of tax information, or any document, report or return filed in connection with state or local taxes. This Waiver shall be valid until the expiration or revocation of a license, or until both the state and local licensing authorities take final action to approve or deny any application(s) for the renewal of the license, whichever is later. Applicant/Licensee agrees to execute a new waiver for each subsequent licensing period in connection with the renewal of any license, if requested.

By signing below, Applicant/Licensee requests that the Colorado Department of Revenue and any other state or local taxing authority or agency in the possession of tax documents or information, release information and documentation to the Colorado Liquor Enforcement Division, and its duly authorized employees, to act as the Applicant's/Licensee's duly authorized representative under section 39-21-113(4), C.R.S., solely to allow the state and local licensing authorities, and their duly authorized employees, to investigate compliance with the Liquor Code and Liquor Rules. Applicant/Licensee authorizes the state and local licensing authorities, their duly authorized employees, and their legal representatives, to use the information and documentation obtained using this Waiver in any administrative or judicial action regarding the application or license.

Name (Individual/Business)

Kum & Go LC/Maverik 5031

Social Security Number/Tax Identification Number

Home Phone Number

Business/Work Phone Number

Street Address

705 Taughenbaugh Blvd

City

Rifle

State

CO

ZIP Code

Printed name of person signing on behalf of the Applicant/Licensee

Applicant/Licensee's Signature (Signature authorizing the disclosure of confidential tax information)

Date Signed

Privacy Act Statement

Providing your Social Security Number is voluntary and no right, benefit or privilege provided by law will be denied as a result of refusal to disclose it. § 7 of Privacy Act, 5 USCS § 552a (note).



Agenda Item #5.c.

Agenda Item Name:

Consider Liquor License Renewal for Jalisco Grill, LLC dba Jalisco Grill

Presenter:

Alexis Ramirez, Board Member

Item Description:

Consider Liquor License Renewal for Jalisco Grill, LLC dba Jalisco Grill

Recommended Action:

Move to approve the Liquor License Renewal for Jalisco Grill, LLC dba Jalisco Grill

Fiscal Impact:

N/A

Operational Impact:

N/A

Prior Board Motions:

N/A

Background Information:

Jalisco Grill, LLC dba Jalisco Grill located at 129 East 3rd Street, Rifle, CO has submitted a Hotel & Restaurant Liquor License Renewal Application.

The application is complete and the appropriate fees have been paid.

Executive Summary:

N/A

Notification Requirements:

N/A

Prepared By:

Alexis Ramirez, City Clerk

Attachments:

1. REDACTED- 2026 Jalisco Grill Liquor License Renewal Application

DR 8400 (02/16/24)
COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE
Liquor Enforcement Division
PO BOX 17087
Denver CO 80217-0087
(303) 205-2300

Submit to Local Licensing Authority

JALISCO GRILL
129 EAST 3RD STREET
Rifle CO 81650

RECEIVED

FEB 27 2026

**City Clerk
City of Rifle**

Fees Due	
Annual Renewal Application Fee	\$
Renewal Fee	750.00
Storage Permit \$100 X _____	\$
Sidewalk Service Area \$75.00	\$
Additional Optional Premise Hotel & Restaurant \$100 X _____	\$
Related Facility - Campus Liquor Complex \$160.00 per facility	\$
Amount Due/Paid	\$

Make check payable to: Colorado Department of Revenue. The State may convert your check to a one-time electronic banking transaction. Your bank account may be debited as early as the same day received by the State. If converted, your check will not be returned. If your check is rejected due to insufficient or uncollected funds, the Department may collect the payment amount directly from your banking account electronically.

Retail Liquor License Renewal Application

Please verify & update all information below. Return to city or county licensing authority by due date.

Note that the Division will not accept cash.

- Paid by check
- Paid Online

Uploaded to Movelt on Date

Licensee Name

JALISCO GRILL, LLC

Doing Business As Name (DBA)

JALISCO GRILL

Liquor License Number

License Type

Hotel & Restaurant (city)

Sales Tax License Number

Expiration Date

Due Date

Business Address

Street Address

Phone Number

129 EAST 3RD STREET

City, State, ZIP Code

Rifle CO 81650

Mailing Address

Street Address

129 EAST 3RD STREET

City, State, ZIP Code

Rifle CO 81650

Email

Operating Manager

Date of Birth

Home Address

Street Address		Phone Number
City	State	ZIP Code
	CO	

1. Do you have legal possession of the premises at the street address? Yes No

Are the premises owned or rented? Owned Rented*

*If rented, expiration date of lease

2. Are you renewing a storage permit, additional optional premises, sidewalk service area, or related facility? Yes No

If yes, please see the table in the upper right hand corner and include all fees due.

3. Are you renewing a takeout and/or delivery permit? Yes No

(Note: must hold a qualifying license type and be authorized for takeout and/or delivery license privileges) If selecting 'Yes', an additional \$11.00 is required to renew the permit.

If so, which are you renewing? Delivery Takeout Both Takeout and Delivery

4. Since the date of filing of the last application, has the applicant, including its manager, partners, officer, directors, stockholders, members (LLC), managing members (LLC), or any other person with a 10% or greater financial interest in the applicant, been found in final order of a tax agency to be delinquent in the payment of any state or local taxes, penalties, or interest related to a business? Yes No

Since the date of filing of the last application, has the applicant, including its manager, partners, officer, directors, stockholders, members (LLC), managing members (LLC), or any other person with a 10% or greater financial interest in the applicant failed to pay any fees or surcharges imposed pursuant to section 44-3-503, C.R.S.? Yes No

5. Since the date of filing of the last application, has there been any change in financial interest (new notes, loans, owners, etc.) or organizational structure (addition or deletion of officers, directors, managing members or general partners)? Yes No

If yes, explain in detail and attach a listing of all liquor businesses in which these new lenders, owners (other than licensed financial institutions), officers, directors, managing members, or general partners are materially interested.

6. Since the date of filing of the last application, has the applicant or any of its agents, owners, managers, partners or lenders (other than licensed financial institutions) been convicted of a crime? Yes No

If yes, attach a detailed explanation.

7. Since the date of filing of the last application, has the applicant or any of its agents, owners, managers, partners or lenders (other than licensed financial institutions) been denied an alcohol beverage license, had an alcohol beverage license suspended or revoked, or had interest in any entity that had an alcohol beverage license denied, suspended or revoked? Yes No

If yes, attach a detailed explanation.

8. Does the applicant or any of its agents, owners, managers, partners or lenders (other than licensed financial institutions) have a direct or indirect interest in any other Colorado liquor license, including loans to or from any licensee or interest in a loan to any licensee? Yes No

If yes, attach a detailed explanation. My spouse and I own several business restaurants in Colorado (Rifle, bast and Carbondale)

Affirmation & Consent

I declare under penalty of perjury in the second degree that this application and all attachments are true, correct and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Type or Print Name of Applicant/Authorized Agent of Business

[Empty text box for Name]

Title

member

Signature

[Empty text box for Signature]

Date (MM/DD/YY)

02/26/2024

Report & Approval of City or County Licensing Authority

The foregoing application has been examined and the premises, business conducted and character of the applicant are satisfactory, and we do hereby report that such license, if granted, will comply with the provisions of Title 44, Articles 4 and 3, C.R.S., and Liquor Rules.

Therefore this application is approved.

Local Licensing Authority For

[Empty text box for Authority Name]

Title

[Empty text box for Title]

Attest

[Empty text box for Attest]

Signature

[Empty text box for Signature]

Date (MM/DD/YY)

[Empty text box for Date]

DR 8495 (02/16/24)
COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE
Liquor Enforcement Division
PO BOX 17087
Denver CO 80217-0087
(303) 205-2300

Tax Check Authorization, Waiver, and Request to Release Information

I,

am signing this Tax Check Authorization, Waiver and Request to Release Information (hereinafter "Waiver") on behalf of

(the "Applicant/Licensee")

Jalisco Grill LLC

to permit the Colorado Department of Revenue and any other state or local taxing authority to release information and documentation that may otherwise be confidential, as provided below. If I am signing this Waiver for someone other than myself, including on behalf of a business entity, I certify that I have the authority to execute this Waiver on behalf of the Applicant/Licensee.

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By signing below, Applicant/Licensee requests that the Colorado Department of Revenue and any other state or local taxing authority or agency in the possession of tax documents or information, release information and documentation to the Colorado Liquor Enforcement Division, and its duly authorized employees, to act as the Applicant's/Licensee's duly authorized representative under section 39-21-113(4), C.R.S., solely to allow the state and local licensing authorities, and their duly authorized employees, to investigate compliance with the Liquor Code and Liquor Rules. Applicant/Licensee authorizes the state and local licensing authorities, their duly authorized employees, and their legal representatives, to use the information and documentation obtained using this Waiver in any administrative or judicial action regarding the application or license.

Name (Individual/Business)

Jalisco grill LLC

Social Security Number/Tax Identification Number

Home Phone Number

Business/Work Phone Number

Street Address

129 E 3rd St.

City

Rifle

State

CO

ZIP Code

81650

Printed name of person signing on behalf of the Applicant/Licensee

Applicant/Licensee's Signature (Signature authorizing the disclosure of confidential tax information) Date Signed

2-26-26

Privacy Act Statement

Providing your Social Security Number is voluntary and no right, benefit or privilege provided by law will be denied as a result of refusal to disclose it. § 7 of Privacy Act, 5 USCS § 552a (note).



Agenda Item #5.d.

Agenda Item Name:

Consider Liquor License Renewal for Thai Chili Bistro, Inc dba Thai Chili Bistro

Presenter:

Alexis Ramirez, Board Member

Item Description:

Consider Liquor License Renewal for Thai Chili Bistro, Inc dba Thai Chili Bistro

Recommended Action:

Move to approve the Liquor License Renewal for Thai Chili Bistro, Inc dba Thai Chili Bistro.

Fiscal Impact:

None

Operational Impact:

None

Prior Board Motions:

None

Background Information:

Thai Chili Bistro, Inc dba Thai Chili Bistro located at 115 East 3rd Street, Rifle, CO has submitted a Hotel & Restaurant Liquor License Renewal Application.

The application is complete and the appropriate fees have been paid.

Executive Summary:

None

Notification Requirements:

None

Prepared By:

Alexis Ramirez, City Clerk

Attachments:

1. REDACTED- 2026 Thai Chili Bistro Liquor License Renewal Application

DR 8400 (02/16/24)
 COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE
 Liquor Enforcement Division
 PO BOX 17087
 Denver CO 80217-0087
 (303) 205-2300

Submit to Local Licensing Authority

THAI CHILI BISTRO
115 E 3RD STREET
Rifle CO 81650

RECEIVED

FEB 11 3 2026

City Clerk
 City of Rifle

Fees Due	
Annual Renewal Application Fee	\$
Renewal Fee	750.00
Storage Permit \$100 X _____	\$
Sidewalk Service Area \$75.00	\$
Additional Optional Premise Hotel & Restaurant \$100 X _____	\$
Related Facility - Campus Liquor Complex \$160.00 per facility	\$
Amount Due/Paid	\$ 761.00

Make check payable to: Colorado Department of Revenue. The State may convert your check to a one-time electronic banking transaction. Your bank account may be debited as early as the same day received by the State. If converted, your check will not be returned. If your check is rejected due to insufficient or uncollected funds, the Department may collect the payment amount directly from your banking account electronically.

Retail Liquor License Renewal Application

Please verify & update all information below. Return to city or county licensing authority by due date.

Note that the Division will not accept cash.

- Paid by check
 Paid Online

Uploaded to MoveIt on Date

Licensee Name

THAI CHILI BISTRO INC

Doing Business As Name (DBA)

THAI CHILI BISTRO

Liquor License Number

License Type

Hotel & Restaurant (city)

Sales Tax License Number

Expiration Date

Due Date

Business Address

Street Address

115 EAST 3RD STREET

Phone Number

City, State, ZIP Code

Rifle CO 81650-2317

Mailing Address

Street Address

115 E 3RD STREET

City, State, ZIP Code

Rifle CO 81650

Email

Operating Manager

Date of Birth

Home Address

Street Address		Phone Number	
115 E 3RD ST			
City	State	ZIP Code	
Rifle	CO	81650	

1. Do you have legal possession of the premises at the street address? Yes No

Are the premises owned or rented? Owned Rented*

*If rented, expiration date of lease

2. Are you renewing a storage permit, additional optional premises, sidewalk service area, or related facility? Yes No

If yes, please see the table in the upper right hand corner and include all fees due.

3. Are you renewing a takeout and/or delivery permit? Yes No

(Note: must hold a qualifying license type and be authorized for takeout and/or delivery license privileges) If selecting 'Yes', an additional \$11.00 is required to renew the permit.

If so, which are you renewing? Delivery Takeout Both Takeout and Delivery

4. Since the date of filing of the last application, has the applicant, including its manager, partners, officer, directors, stockholders, members (LLC), managing members (LLC), or any other person with a 10% or greater financial interest in the applicant, been found in final order of a tax agency to be delinquent in the payment of any state or local taxes, penalties, or interest related to a business? Yes No

Since the date of filing of the last application, has the applicant, including its manager, partners, officer, directors, stockholders, members (LLC), managing members (LLC), or any other person with a 10% or greater financial interest in the applicant failed to pay any fees or surcharges imposed pursuant to section 44-3-503, C.R.S.? Yes No

5. Since the date of filing of the last application, has there been any change in financial interest (new notes, loans, owners, etc.) or organizational structure (addition or deletion of officers, directors, managing members or general partners)? Yes No

If yes, explain in detail and attach a listing of all liquor businesses in which these new lenders, owners (other than licensed financial institutions), officers, directors, managing members, or general partners are materially interested.

6. Since the date of filing of the last application, has the applicant or any of its agents, owners, managers, partners or lenders (other than licensed financial institutions) been convicted of a crime? Yes No

If yes, attach a detailed explanation.

7. Since the date of filing of the last application, has the applicant or any of its agents, owners, managers, partners or lenders (other than licensed financial institutions) been denied an alcohol beverage license, had an alcohol beverage license suspended or revoked, or had interest in any entity that had an alcohol beverage license denied, suspended or revoked? Yes No

If yes, attach a detailed explanation.

8. Does the applicant or any of its agents, owners, managers, partners or lenders (other than licensed financial institutions) have a direct or indirect interest in any other Colorado liquor license, including loans to or from any licensee or interest in a loan to any licensee? Yes No

If yes, attach a detailed explanation.

Affirmation & Consent

I declare under penalty of perjury in the second degree that this application and all attachments are true, correct and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Type or Print Name of Applicant/Authorized Agent of Business

[Empty text box for name]

Title

Manager

Signature

[Empty signature box]

Date (MM/DD/YY)

[Empty date box]

Report & Approval of City or County Licensing Authority

The foregoing application has been examined and the premises, business conducted and character of the applicant are satisfactory, and we do hereby report that such license, if granted, will comply with the provisions of Title 44, Articles 4 and 3, C.R.S., and Liquor Rules.

Therefore this application is approved.

Local Licensing Authority For

[Empty text box for authority name]

Title

[Empty title box]

Attest

[Empty attest box]

Signature

[Empty signature box]

Date (MM/DD/YY)

[Empty date box]

DR 8495 (02/16/24)
COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE
Liquor Enforcement Division
PO BOX 17087
Denver CO 80217-0087
(303) 205-2300

Tax Check Authorization, Waiver, and Request to Release Information

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am signing this Tax Check Authorization, Waiver and Request to Release Information (hereinafter "Waiver") on behalf of

(the "Applicant/Licensee")

Thai Chili Bistro, Inc.

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Name (Individual/Business)

Thai Chili Bistro, Inc.

Social Security Number/Tax Identification Number

Home Phone Number

NA

Business/Work Phone Number

Street Address

115 E. 3rd Street.

City

Rifle

State

CO

ZIP Code

81650

Printed name of person signing on behalf of the Applicant/Licensee

Applicant/Licensee's Signature (Signature authorizing the disclosure of confidential tax information) Date Signed

Privacy Act Statement

Providing your Social Security Number is voluntary and no right, benefit or privilege provided by law will be denied as a result of refusal to disclose it. § 7 of Privacy Act, 5 USCS § 552a (note).

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Agenda Item #5.e.

Agenda Item Name:

Consider Approval of Purchase Order for Parachute Area Transit System for 2026

Presenter:

Patrick Waller, City Manager

Item Description:

Purchase Order Request

Recommended Action:

Move to approve Purchase Order for Parachute Area Transit Service in the amount of \$

Fiscal Impact:

PATS requested a \$75,000 contribution for 2026, an increase of \$35,000 from 2025. The modified amount was approved as part of the budget supplement approved at the last Council meeting.

Operational Impact:

N/A

Prior Board Motions:

N/A

Background Information:

N/A

Executive Summary:

The City increased the contribution to PATS to \$75,000 this year. This will help support the pilot on-demand bus service that is expected to roll out in the next couple of months.

Notification Requirements:

No additional notice required.

Prepared By:

Patrick Waller, City Manager

Attachments:

1. City of Rifle Invoice
2. PATS Purchase Order



INVOICE

TOWN OF PARACHUTE

222 Grand Valley Way

Parachute CO 81635

Phone: (970) 285-7630 Fax:

Date	Number	Page
02/05/2026	2026003	1

Customer No. 5

Contact:

Terms: Net 30

Bill To: CITY OF RIFLE
 202 RAILROAD AVENUE
 RIFLE CO 81650

Quantity	Description	Unit Price	Net Amount
1	PATS Transit	75,000.00	75,000.00

Thank you!

Amount 75,000.00

Freight

Balance Due

75,000.00



**CITY OF RIFLE
PURCHASE REQUEST**

1.	Vendor Name	NEW: W-9 attached <input type="checkbox"/>

2.	Vendor Address

3.	For the Purchase of (description)

4.	Amount Requested	Amount Budgeted	Finance Director Verified Funds Avail.

5.	Dept. Name	General Ledger Acct #

6.	Type of Purchase
	Capital Construction
	Capital Construction – Change Order
	Capital Equipment
	Plant Equipment
	Materials, supplies, non-profession/technical services (includes computer/software maint.)
	Professional Services
	Utilities (includes equipment installation and ongoing contracts)
	Land, easements, ROW

7.	Purchasing Process Required (Rifle Municipal Code sections for guidance)		
	Cooperative Purchasing:	Sec 4-3-50	
	Emergency Procurement	Sec. 4-3-235	
	Small Purchases	Sec. 4-3-225	
	Request for Proposal:	Sec. 4-3-220(b)	(attach bid tab)
	Competitive Sealed Bid:	Sec.4-3-215	(attach bid tab & advertisement)
	Miscellaneous Exemptions	Sec. 4-2-230	(attach memo)

8.	Authorization Required	
	City Manager	
	City Council	

9.	Signatures		
	Position	Signature	Date
	Department Director		
	City Manager		
	City Council Approval (meeting date)		

10.	Purchase Order # assigned by Finance

TABLE 1 - IS A PURCHASE ORDER NECESSARY

<u>Amount of Purchase</u>	<u>Is Purchase Order Needed</u>	<u>Method of Source Selection</u>
\$0.01 - \$10,000	No – Dept Head Approval	No special sourcing
\$10,000.01 - \$25,000	Yes – City Manager Approval	Yes – see table 2 below
\$25,000.01 or Greater	Yes – Council Approval	Yes – see table 2 below

TABLE 2 - METHODS OF SOURCE SELECTION

<u>Methods of source selection</u>	<u>Contract limits</u>
Competitive sealed bidding	Greater than \$50,000.00
Competitive sealed proposals	Greater than \$10,000.00 and less than \$50,000.00.
**Greater than \$50,000 allowed for Construction Manager/General Contractor proposals, or similar type proposal.	
Small purchases	Less than \$10,000.00 - DEPARTMENT HEAD DISCRETION

TABLE 3 - LOCAL VENDOR PREFERENCE

Contract Amount	Primary Preference In City Limits	Secondary Preference In County Out of City
Less than \$1,000	10% discount	5% discount
\$1,001 to \$5,000	8% discount	4% discount
\$5,001 to \$25,000	6% discount	3% discount
\$25,001 to \$100,000	5% discount	2% discount
\$100,000 to \$200,000	4% discount	2.5% discount
\$200,001 to \$500,000	3% discount	1.5% discount
\$500,000 or greater	2% discount	1% discount



Agenda Item #5.f.

Agenda Item Name:

Consider Approval of Bookcliff Arts Council GRIT Grant Request in the Amount of \$4,800

Presenter:

Zach Higgins, Community Development Director

Item Description:

Consider Approval of Bookcliff Arts Council GRIT Grant request in the amount of \$4,800

Recommended Action:

Move to approve Bookcliff Arts Council GRIT Grant request in the amount of \$4,800.

Fiscal Impact:

\$4,800 from the GRIT Special Events/Grant GL. This is a budgeted item

Operational Impact:

None

Prior Board Motions:

None

Background Information:

Each year Bookcliffs Arts Center requests funding from GRIT to support the Hilltop Concert Series. The concert series is a free public event happening every Sunday evening from June through August at the Bookcliffs Arts Center facility at the top of E. 16th Street. In 2025, Bookcliffs Arts Center was awarded \$5,500 for the concert series.

Executive Summary:

In the 2026 GRIT Grant cycle, first round, Bookcliffs Arts Council requested \$8,000 in funding to support the Hilltop Concert Series. This annual concert series takes place every Sunday evening from June through August at the organization's facility at 1100 E. 16th Street. This event is free to the public and showcases mostly local artists. The funding request included \$4,800 to cover band costs and \$3,200 to cover lawn maintenance.

As outlined in the grant application, funds may be requested to cover event costs only and not operational costs. After considerable conversation by the GRIT Advisory Board, they came to a unanimous decision that lawn maintenance is an operational cost. Therefore, the board recommends funding Bookcliffs Arts Center in the amount of \$4,800 to assist with event costs associated with hiring the performers.

Notification Requirements:

None

Prepared By:

Kim Burner, Main Street Manager

Attachments:

None



Agenda Item #5.g.

Agenda Item Name:

Consider Approval of the New Ute Theater Society GRIT Grant Request in the Amount of \$3,800

Presenter:

Zach Higgins, Community Development Director

Item Description:

Consider Approval of the New Ute Theater Society GRIT Grant request in the amount of \$3,800.

Recommended Action:

Move to approve the New Ute Theater Society GRIT Grant request in the amount of \$3,800.

Fiscal Impact:

\$3,800 from the VIF special event/grant GL. This specific request for funding was not budgeted, but a small amount is budgeted in this GL for unexpected funding requests.

Operational Impact:

None

Prior Board Motions:

None

Background Information:

In 2025, to support the newly planned Third Thursday on Third Street event, the New Ute Theater Society agreed to put on shows at the Ute Theater in the winter months leading into their May concert series which happens every Thursday in May. These shows were designed to start building the resident's habit of coming downtown on the third Thursday to celebrate Rifle. These shows stretched the NUTS budget more than anticipated.

Executive Summary:

The New Ute Theater Society requested funding to assist in covering costs associated with a February and April show at the Ute Theater on the third Thursday of those months to lead into their established May Patio Concert Series which happens each Thursday evening in May. These shows, including the patio concert series, up to the Third Thursday on Third Street summer concert series.

Keeping the momentum of residents coming to downtown Rifle throughout the winter and spring months will support the continued growth of Third Thursdays on Third Street. Therefore, the GRIT Advisory Board recommends funding at the requested \$3,800.

Notification Requirements:

None

Prepared By:

Kim Burner, Main Street Manager

Attachments:

None



Agenda Item #5.h.

Agenda Item Name:

Consider Approval of the Middle Colorado Watershed Council GRIT Grant Request in the Amount of \$3,000

Presenter:

Zach Higgins, Community Development Director

Item Description:

Consider Approval of the Middle Colorado Watershed Council GRIT Grant request in the amount of \$3,000.

Recommended Action:

Move to approve Middle Colorado Watershed Council GRIT Grant request in the amount of \$3,000.

Fiscal Impact:

\$3,000 from the GRIT special event/grant GL. This is a budgeted item

Operational Impact:

None

Prior Board Motions:

None

Background Information:

The Middle Colorado Watershed Council has requested funds from GRIT in 2022, 2023, 2024 and 2025. In 2022 and 2023 Middle Colorado Watershed Council was awarded \$1,500 each year and 2024 and 2025 they were awarded \$3,000 each year. Awards in 2024 and 2025 were for the Wild and Scenic Filmfest and Fire and Water Speaker Series. Rifle Lodging Tax, which is how GRIT is funded, may not be used for events that take place outside of Rifle. Middle Colorado Watershed Council is aware of these limitations and funds awarded through GRIT are used only for the portion of the events that take place in Rifle.

Executive Summary:

The 2026 grant request from Middle Colorado Watershed Council is, again, to support the Wild and Scenic Filmfest and Fire and Water Speaker Series. The requested amount of \$5,000 is higher than in previous years.

While event costs have significantly increased over the last several years, it doesn't appear costs of the events specific to Rifle have increased. Especially since the New Ute Theater Society cover the cost of renting the Ute Theater for the Wild and Scenic Filmfest showing in Rifle. After discussion by the GRIT Advisory Board, the board recommended funding at \$3,000.

Notification Requirements:

None

Prepared By:

Kim Burner, Main Street Manager

Attachments:

None



Agenda Item #5.i.

Agenda Item Name:

Consider Approval of the Garfield County Public Library, Rifle Branch, GRIT Grant Request in the Amount of \$3,000

Presenter:

Zach Higgins, Community Development Director

Item Description:

Consider Approval of the Garfield County Public Library, Rifle Branch, GRIT Grant request in the amount of \$3,000.

Recommended Action:

Move to approve the Garfield County Public Library, Rifle Branch, GRIT Grant request in the amount of \$3,000.

Fiscal Impact:

\$3,000 from the GRIT/VIF special events/grant GL. This specific application is new and was not budgeted, although a small amount is budgeted each year for unexpected applications.

Operational Impact:

None

Prior Board Motions:

None

Background Information:

This is the first year post COVID that the Rifle Library has requested funding from GRIT. Prior applications were in amounts under \$500 to assist with library incurred costs associated with Hometown Holiday.

Executive Summary:

The Garfield County Library District, Rifle Branch, is requesting funds in the amount of \$3,000 to cover a portion of the cost related to purchasing and installing 17 permanent, weatherproof panels to be installed in Centennial Park. These panels will be used to create a storybook walk through the park. The storybooks will change an estimated 4–6 times throughout the year.

The storybook walk is designed to facilitate early literacy and engagement while encouraging families to participate in outdoor activities together. The Rifle Branch Library anticipates installing the first storybook from late summer to early fall.

After consideration, the GRIT Advisory Board recommends funding the project at the requested \$3,000.

Notification Requirements:

None

Prepared By:

Kim Burner, Main Street Manager

Attachments:

None



Agenda Item #5.j.

Agenda Item Name:

Consider Amending Article 3 of Chapter 16 of the Rifle Municipal Code to Amend Building Height Standards - Ordinance No. 3, Series of 2026 (2nd Reading)

Presenter:

Geir Sverdrup
Zach Higgins, Community Development Director

Item Description:

Ordinance to amend the Rifle Municipal Code to take building height measurements from building facade at finished or existing grade, whichever is lower.

Recommended Action:

Move to Amend Article 3 of Chapter 16 of the Rifle Municipal Code to Amend Building Height Standards - Ordinance No. 3, Series of 2026 on second reading.

Fiscal Impact:

N/A

Operational Impact:

Modifies the way in which Staff determines building heights to allow for more flexibility when a lot is sloped.

Prior Board Motions:

Planning Commission recommended approval at their January 27th regular meeting.

Background Information:

See Staff Report.

Executive Summary:

See Staff Report.

Notification Requirements:

Notice requirements were met.

Prepared By:

Alexis Ramirez, City Clerk

Attachments:

1. Building Height Staff Report - CC February 18 2026
2. Ordinance No. 3 of 2026 Update to Ch. 16 for Height updates

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT



202 Railroad Avenue, Rifle, CO 81650
Phone: 970-665-6490

MEMORANDUM

TO: City of Rifle Planning & Zoning Commission
FROM: Geir Sverdrup, Senior Planner
DATE: February 18, 2026
SUBJECT: 2025-025 Building Height Text Amendment
ADDRESS: City-Wide
APPLICANT: City of Rifle Staff

Background

Currently, Rifle Municipal Code measures building height at any point of the building from existing grade. Staff has received submittals over that last few years that propose excavation of the site resulting in taller building elevations than surrounding properties, especially on steeper building sites.

During the P&Z hearing of September 30, 2025, there were several questions raised by commissioners. Staff has discussed the method of measurement currently written in the code with the planning commissioners during a workshop.

The code currently reads as follows.

Sec. 16-3-250. - Height provisions.

- (a) Building heights. The maximum height of buildings shall be measured vertically at the front yard setback line from undisturbed or natural ground level to the top of a flat or mansard roof or to the midpoint between the eave line and ridge line of a gable, gambrel, hip, shed or similar pitched roof. The vertical height of a building shall parallel the existing grade prior to construction of the building and shall not exceed the maximum height at any point of the building from existing grade.
- (b) Exemptions. Height limitations of this regulation shall not apply to stacks, vents, antennae, cooling towers, elevator bulkheads, solar panels, tanks or similar mechanical appurtenances which extend no more than ten (10) feet above the permitted height. No limitation shall apply to monuments, cupolas, domes, towers, spires and similar noninhabitable structural appurtenances for public or semipublic buildings.
- (c) Height of structures. Any structures that is not a building, such as industrial air exhaust structures or communication towers, may exceed the maximum permitted building height in any zone district upon approval of a conditional use application. For buildings located within the Central Business District, see also Figure 16-18-830 of this Chapter.

Currently, staff measures building height at any point of the building from existing grade by creating a "casting" of the existing grade and then elevating that "casting" to the maximum building height permitted. By this method building elevations can be analyzed

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT



202 Railroad Avenue, Rifle, CO 81650
Phone: 970-665-6490

for compliance with the intent of the code. Several submittals over the last few years have proposed excavation of the site resulting in taller than the maximum allowable building elevations. There are historic examples of building height only being measured at the front elevation at the front setback creating elevations that become taller than building height at different points, Sec.16-3-250 (a). Steeper properties have been more difficult to apply the remainder of Sec. 16-3-250 (a), *The vertical height of a building shall parallel the existing grade prior to construction of the building and shall not exceed the maximum height at any point of the building from existing grade.* As written, the current language of the code can restrict property owners from building two-story homes on lots that slope to the rear.

The following revision is Staff's recommended amendment to the Rifle Municipal Code for consideration by the Planning Commission based on the Commission's discussion and input from the October 28, 2025 workshop as a text amendment.

Proposed Amendment

Article III. – Zoning - Sec. 16-3-250. Height provisions.

(a) *Building heights. The maximum height of buildings shall be measured vertically at the front yard setback line from undisturbed or natural ground level to the top of a flat or mansard roof or to the midpoint between the eave line and ridge line of a gable, gambrel, hip, shed or similar pitched roof. The vertical height of a building shall parallel the existing grade prior to construction of the building and shall not exceed the maximum height at any point the front yard façade of the building from existing grade or finished grade, whichever is lower.*

The proposed text addition provides applicants, builders, and contractors with a clear and irrefutable understanding of how building heights will be calculated when reviewed by staff.

Findings

Pursuant to RMC Section 16-5-280, the Planning and Zoning Commission shall consider the following criteria when determining whether or not to recommend approval of the proposed amendment to City Council:

1. Conformance of the proposal with the City of Rifle Municipal Code.

The proposal is in conformance with the Rifle Municipal Code.

2. The compatibility of the proposal with the character of the surrounding area, including but not limited to the architectural character of the neighborhood, the average lot and building sizes in the neighborhood, and the relative value of the proposed structure to the value of other structures in the neighborhood.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT



202 Railroad Avenue, Rifle, CO 81650
Phone: 970-665-6490

The proposal will be compatible with the character of Rifle. Staff feels that this amendment to the Code will allow for more clarity of City requirements. Many homes on hillside lots are out of compliance with the current code but would be in compliance with the newly written code.

3. The desirability for the proposed use in the specific area of the City.

The zoning code is enforced Citywide by appropriate zone district.

4. The potential for adverse environmental effects that might result from the proposed use.

No adverse environmental effects are anticipated from the proposal. Amendment will limit excessive excavation on properties.

5. Compatibility of the proposed use and the site (or subdivision) plan with the City of Rifle Comprehensive Plan.

No Comprehensive Plan issues were noted as part of the review.

6. The potential impact of the proposed use upon the value of property and buildings within the surrounding area; and

No negative impacts to property values are anticipated. Amendment will maintain the intent of restricting building height with particular focus on street frontage and neighborhood cohesiveness.

7. Conformance of the proposal with the approval requirements concerning water and sewer tap availability for high volume use requests pursuant to 13-4-120 of the Code, if applicable.

Not applicable.

Planning and Zoning Commission

The Commission reviewed the proposed text amendment at their September 30, 2025 workshop and heard the proposed amendment at the October 28, 2025 hearing. At their request staff made revisions and brought the text amendment back to the January 27, 2026 hearing. The Commission recommended approval of the text amendment as presented.

Recommendation

Planning and Zoning Commission recommends that the City Council approve the proposed text amendment 2025-025 as prepared by staff

CITY OF RIFLE, COLORADO
ORDINANCE NO. 3
SERIES OF 2026

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF RIFLE, COLORADO, AMENDING
ARTICLE 3 OF CHAPTER 16 OF THE RIFLE MUNICIPAL CODE TO AMEND
BUILDING HEIGHT STANDARDS

WHEREAS, the City of Rifle (“Rifle” or the “City”) is a home-rule municipality organized pursuant to Article XX of the Colorado Constitution and with the authority of the Rifle Home Rule Charter; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 16 of the Rifle Municipal Code (the “Code”) regulates land use, zoning and development within the City; and

WHEREAS, City Staff has made certain recommendations to the City’s zoning requirements to alter height and driveway setback restrictions; and

WHEREAS, the Planning and Zoning Commission has reviewed the regulations contained within this ordinance and has provided its comments and recommendations in support of adopting the amendments to the Code; and

WHEREAS, the Rifle City Council finds and determines that it is in the best interests of the citizens of Rifle to amend Chapter 16 of the Code.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RIFLE, COLORADO, THAT:

Section 1. The foregoing recitals are incorporated herein as if set forth in full.

Section 2. Section 16-3-250 of the Rifle Municipal Code, “Height provisions”, is hereby amended as follows, with underlined text added and with ~~strike through language~~ deleted, as follows::

Sec. 16-3-250. Height provisions.

(a) Building heights. The maximum height of buildings shall be measured vertically at the front yard setback line from undisturbed or natural ground level to the top of a flat or mansard roof or to the midpoint between the eave line and ridge line of a gable, gambrel, hip, shed or similar pitched roof. The vertical height of a building ~~shall parallel the existing grade prior to construction of the building and~~ shall not exceed the maximum height at any point the front yard façade of the building from existing grade or finished grade, whichever is lower.

(b) Exemptions. Height limitations of this regulation shall not apply to stacks, vents, antennae, cooling towers, elevator bulkheads, solar panels, tanks or similar mechanical appurtenances which extend no more than ten (10) feet above the permitted height. No limitation shall apply to monuments, cupolas, domes, towers, spires and similar noninhabitable structural appurtenances for public or semipublic buildings.

(c) Height of structures. Any structures that is not a building, such as industrial air exhaust structures or communication towers, may exceed the maximum permitted building height in any zone district upon approval of a conditional use application. For buildings located within the Central Business District, see also Figure 16-18-830 of this Chapter.

INTRODUCED, on February 18, 2026, read in full, passed on first reading, and ordered published by title as required by the City Charter.

INTRODUCED a second time at a regular meeting of the Council of the City of Rifle, Colorado, held on March 4, 2026, approved without amendments, and ordered published in full as required by the Charter.

CITY OF RIFLE, COLORADO

By _____
Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk



Agenda Item #5.k.

Agenda Item Name:

Consider Amending Article 3 of Chapter 16 of the Rifle Municipal Code to Amend Lot Size Standards - Ordinance No. 4, Series of 2026 (2nd Reading)

Presenter:

Geir Sverdrup
Zach Higgins, Community Development Director

Item Description:

Ordinance amending lot size standards to reflect lot size challenges for existing and proposed single-family attached units.

Recommended Action:

Move to Amend Article 3 of Chapter 16 of the Rifle Municipal Code to Amend Lot Size Standards - Ordinance No. 4, Series of 2026 on second reading.

Fiscal Impact:

N/A

Operational Impact:

N/A

Prior Board Motions:

Planning Commission provided recommendation for approval at their January 27th, 2026 regular meeting.

Background Information:

See Staff Report.

Executive Summary:

See Staff Report.

Notification Requirements:

Notice requirements were met.

Prepared By:

Alexis Ramirez, City Clerk

Attachments:

1. SFR Attached CC Staff Report 2-18-2026
2. Ordinance No. 4 2026 Update to Ch. 16 SF Detached Lot Size Standards

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

202 Railroad Avenue, Rifle, CO 81650
Phone: 970-665-6490 Fax: 970-625-6268



MEMORANDUM

TO: Rifle City Council
FROM: Geir H. Sverdrup, Senior Planner
DATE: February 18, 2026
SUBJECT: 2026-002 Text Amendment Clarifying Single Family Detached
ADDRESS: City-Wide
APPLICANT: City of Rifle Staff

Background

Recently Staff has been reviewing the R.M.C. as it pertains to single family residential lot size minimums. As the code is currently written any single family home, including single family attached, i.e. townhouses and duplexes, must have a 6,000 square foot lot for each unit. Historically, staff has not applied this requirement to these projects. Strictly interpreted, a townhouse or a duplex requires a 6,000 square foot lot per unit. Historically single family attached homes within the City have not been held to this requirement. Staff proposes the following amendment to the Rifle Municipal Code to address this unintended consequence.

Definitions

Attached dwelling means a dwelling that is attached to another dwelling, excluding accessory dwellings, and is separated from those other dwellings by a common wall.

Dwelling means a building or portion thereof used for residential occupancy.

Dwelling, multiple-family means a building containing three (3) or more dwelling units.

Dwelling, single-family means a building containing only one (1) dwelling unit.

Dwelling, two-family means a building containing two (2) dwelling units.

Dwelling unit means a building or portion of a building that is designed, occupied or intended to be occupied as living quarters for a single family and includes facilities for cooking, sleeping and sanitation.

Proposed Amendment

Townhouse units typically only have the footprint of the structure along with a “backyard” as their lot, substantially less than 6,000 square feet, i.e. Fairview Heights lots are 993 square feet located within a larger “communal” space. Duplexes are single-family dwellings attached on one (1) side to another single-family residence. Both residences are located on the same lot under common ownership. With the addition of “detached” in the Schedule of Requirements to Single Family Minimum Lot Size, staff believes that this addresses the issue.

It is staff’s belief that the definitions do not require any amendments and that the addition of “detached” to the table in Sec. 16-3-330 clarifies the intent and the historical application of single family attached as well as single family detached residential projects.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

202 Railroad Avenue, Rifle, CO 81650

Phone: 970-665-6490 Fax: 970-625-6268



Sec. 16-3-330. Schedule of requirements for residential districts.

The following is the schedule of requirements for the LDR, MDR and MDR-X Zone Districts:

ZONING REQUIREMENTS	LDR	MDR	MDR-X
Single family detached minimum lot size	6,000 s.f.	3,000 s.f.	3,000 s.f.
Maximum lot coverage	50%	70%	85%
Maximum height of buildings (See Section 16-3-250)	27 feet	35 feet	35 feet
Maximum floor area ratio	1:1	1:1	2:1
Off-street parking spaces	Per Article VII of this Chapter	Per Article VII of this Chapter	Per Article VII of this Chapter
Minimum setbacks:			
1. Front yard	15 feet	10 feet	5 feet
1.1 Driveway*	20 Feet	20 Feet	20 Feet
2. Rear yard	20 feet	10 feet	5 feet
3. Side yard	5 feet minimum or 1 foot for every 2 feet of building height, whichever is greater	5 feet	5 feet
4. Shared driveway	20 feet from edge of the driveway easement		
* Driveway shall be measured from face of garage to property line. No portion of the required driveway may encroach into the City's Right-of-Way			

Findings

Pursuant to RMC Section 16-5-280, the Planning and Zoning Commission shall consider the following criteria when determining whether or not to recommend approval of the text amendments to City Council:

1. Conformance of the proposal with the City of Rifle Municipal Code;
The proposal is in conformance with the Rifle Municipal Code.

2. The compatibility of the proposal with the character of the surrounding area, including but not limited to the architectural character of the neighborhood, the average lot and building sizes in the neighborhood, and the relative value of the proposed structure to the value of other structures in the neighborhood;
The proposal is compatible with the character of Rifle. Staff feels that this amendment to the Code will codify the existing and historical procedure.

3. The desirability for the proposed use in the specific area of the City;
The zoning code is enforced Citywide by appropriate zone district.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

202 Railroad Avenue, Rifle, CO 81650

Phone: 970-665-6490 Fax: 970-625-6268



4. The potential for adverse environmental effects that might result from the proposed use;

No adverse environmental effects are anticipated from the proposal.

5. Compatibility of the proposed use and the site (or subdivision) plan with the City of Rifle Comprehensive Plan;

No Comprehensive Plan issues were noted as part of the review.

6. The potential impact of the proposed use upon the value of property and buildings within the surrounding area; and

No negative impacts to property values are anticipated.

7. Conformance of the proposal with the approval requirements concerning water and sewer tap availability for high volume use requests pursuant to 13-4-120 of the Code, if applicable.

Not applicable.

Planning and Zoning Commission

The Commission reviewed the proposed text amendment at their October 28, 2025 workshop, staff presented the proposed text amendment at the January 27, 2026 hearing. The Commission recommended approval of the text amendment as presented.

Recommendation

Planning and Zoning Commission recommends that the City Council approve the proposed text amendment 2026-002 as prepared by staff.

**CITY OF RIFLE, COLORADO
ORDINANCE NO. 4
SERIES OF 2026**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF RIFLE, COLORADO, AMENDING
ARTICLE 3 OF CHAPTER 16 OF THE RIFLE MUNICIPAL CODE TO AMEND
LOT SIZE STANDARDS

WHEREAS, the City of Rifle (“Rifle” or the “City”) is a home-rule municipality organized pursuant to Article XX of the Colorado Constitution and with the authority of the Rifle Home Rule Charter; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 16 of the Rifle Municipal Code (the “Code”) regulates land use, zoning and development within the City; and

WHEREAS, City Staff has made certain recommendations to the City’s zoning requirements to alter lot size standards; and

WHEREAS, the Planning and Zoning Commission has reviewed the regulations contained within this ordinance and has provided its comments and recommendations in support of adopting the amendments to the Code; and

WHEREAS, the Rifle City Council finds and determines that it is in the best interests of the citizens of Rifle to amend Chapter 16 of the Code consistent with these recommendations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RIFLE, COLORADO, THAT:

Section 1. The foregoing recitals are incorporated herein as if set forth in full.

Section 2. Section 16-3-330 of the Rifle Municipal Code, “Schedule of requirements for residential districts”, is hereby amended as follows, with underlined text added:

Sec. 16-3-330. Schedule of requirements for residential districts

The following is the schedule of requirements for the LDR, MDR and MDR-X Zone Districts:

ZONING REQUIREMENTS	LDR	MDR	MDR-X
Single family <u>detached</u> minimum lot size	6,000 s.f.	3,000 s.f.	3,000 s.f.
Maximum lot coverage	50%	70%	85%
Maximum height of buildings (See Section 16-3-250)	27 feet	35 feet	35 feet
Maximum floor area ratio	1:1	1:1	2:1
Off-street parking spaces	Per Article VII of this Chapter	Per Article VII of this Chapter	Per Article VII of this Chapter

Minimum setbacks:			
1. Front yard	15 feet	10 feet	5 feet
1.1 Driveway*	20 Feet	20 Feet	20 Feet
2. Rear yard	20 feet	10 feet	5 feet
3. Side yard	5 feet minimum or 1 foot for every 2 feet of building height, whichever is greater	5 feet	5 feet
4. Shared driveway	20 feet from edge of the driveway easement		
* Driveway shall be measured from face of garage/structure to property line. No portion of the required driveway may encroach into the City's Right-of-Way			

INTRODUCED, on February 18, 2026, read in full, passed on first reading, and ordered published by title as required by the City Charter.

INTRODUCED a second time at a regular meeting of the Council of the City of Rifle, Colorado, held on March 4, 2026, approved without amendments, and ordered published in full as required by the Charter.

CITY OF RIFLE, COLORADO

By _____
 Mayor

ATTEST:

 City Clerk



Agenda Item #5.1.

Agenda Item Name:

Consider Amending Article 3 of Chapter 16 of the Rifle Municipal Code to Amend Landscaping Standards - Ordinance No. 5, Series of 2026 (2nd Reading)

Presenter:

Geir Sverdrup
Zach Higgins, Community Development Director

Item Description:

Ordinance bringing the Rifle Municipal Code into compliance with State requirements regarding non-functional turf grass.

Recommended Action:

Move to Amend Article 3 of Chapter 16 of the Rifle Municipal Code to Amend Landscaping Standards - Ordinance No. 5, Series of 2026 on second reading.

Fiscal Impact:

N/A

Operational Impact:

N/A

Prior Board Motions:

Planning Commission recommended approval at their January 27th regular meeting.

Background Information:

See Staff Report

Executive Summary:

See Staff Report

Notification Requirements:

Notice requirements have been met.

Prepared By:

Alexis Ramirez, City Clerk

Attachments:

1. SB5 HB1113 CC Staff Report 2-18-2026_TURF_GRASS
2. Ordinance No. 5 of 2026 Update to Ch. 16 for Landscape Turf Grass

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

202 Railroad Avenue, Rifle, CO 81650

Phone: 970-665-6490 Fax: 970-625-6268



MEMORANDUM

TO: Rifle City Council
FROM: Geir H. Sverdrup, Senior Planner
DATE: February 18, 2026
SUBJECT: SB24-005 and HB25-1113 Text Amendments
ADDRESS: City-Wide
APPLICANT: City of Rifle Staff

Background

Senate Bill 24-005 (SB5) was approved on March 15, 2024 with the sole purpose of reducing outdoor water demands by limiting the use of non-native turf in landscaping. The bill requires cities and towns to replace the use of nonfunctional turf with "water-wise landscaping" that reduces outdoor water consumption without impacting landscape functionality or quality of life.

SB5 prohibits the installation of nonfunctional turf, artificial turf, and invasive plant species on nonresidential properties for new development and specific redevelopment projects on or after January 1, 2026. **SB5 does not apply to existing development or new residential development.**

On May 20, 2025, House Bill 25-1113 (HB1113) passed, which both expanded and modified the requirements of SB5. SB5 prohibited all artificial turf, however, HB1113 changes that by adding definitions for functional artificial turf, which is allowed, and nonfunctional artificial turf, which communities will still need to incorporate into their codes by the SB5 implementation date of January 1, 2026. HB1113 also adopted additional changes which include adding multifamily residential properties with more than 12 units to be applicable properties that SB5 applies to. Local entities will be required to adopt and regulate these additional changes to turf on all residential properties by January 1, 2028.

During the Planning and Zoning Commission's December 9th, 2025 workshop, staff presented the draft text amendment for review. Discussion centered on the impact to water resources and the application to residential projects. Staff informed the Commission that Western Recourse Advocates (WRA), a third party consultant approved by the State, had reviewed and commented on the proposed amendment.

The following is the proposed text amendment to the Rifle Municipal Code. Changes in red reflect staff's initial proposed amendment. Western Resource Advocates comments have been incorporated to insure compliance with SB5 and HB1113.



Proposed Amendment

ARTICLE I – General Provisions

Division 2 - Definitions and Usage

Sec. 16-1-220. Definitions.

For purposes of this Chapter, certain terms are defined as follows:

Commercial laundry means a building or part of a building used for the cleaning of clothing, fabrics or other household goods for profit.

Common Interest Community means real estate described in a declaration with respect to which a person, by virtue of such person's ownership of a unit, is obligated to pay for real estate taxes, insurance premiums, maintenance, or improvement of other real estate described in a declaration. Ownership of a unit does not include holding a leasehold interest in a unit of less than forty years, including renewal options. The period of the leasehold interest, including renewal options, is measured from the date the initial term commences.

Company provided on-site recreation means ...

ARTICLE XIII Landscape Guidelines.

Sec. 16-13-10. General provisions.

Landscaping shall refer to any combination of living plants such as trees, shrubs, plants, vegetative ground cover, **functional** turf, **native** and climate adapted grasses, and may include natural nonliving elements such as rock, stone and bark, as well as structural features, including but not limited to walks, fences, benches, works of art, ~~reflective pools and fountains.~~

Sec. 16-13-20. Purpose and intent.

The purpose and intent of this Article is to protect the health and welfare of the citizens of Rifle through the regulation of landscaping of new multi-family (**greater than 12 units**), **common interest community property**, commercial, public/civic, institutional, light industrial and industrial developments, as well as street rights-of-way, parking lots, medians, and transportation corridors. Installed landscapes should enhance property values, promote quality development, contribute to the visual character of new developments, and promote water conservation through water-wise landscaping. Water-wise landscaping principles are as follows:

- (1) Design. Identify zones of different water requirements and group plants together that have similar water needs;
- (2) Appropriate Use of **Functional** Turf. Limit high-irrigation turf and plantings to ~~appropriate high-use areas with high visibility and functional needs~~ **recreational use areas or other space that is regularly used for civic, community, or recreational purposes**;
- (3) Low-Water-Using Plants. **For areas that are not regularly used for civic, community or recreational purposes,** Choose low-water-demanding **trees, shrubs and plants** and turf from Appendix C, as well as **native and climate adapted grasses** ~~where practicable~~;
- (4) Irrigation. Design, operate and maintain an efficient irrigation system;
- (5) Soil Preparation. Incorporate soil amendments before planting;
- (6) Mulch. Add mulch to planting beds to a minimum depth of three (3) inches;

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

202 Railroad Avenue, Rifle, CO 81650

Phone: 970-665-6490 Fax: 970-625-6268



- (7) Maintenance. Provide regular and attentive maintenance to landscaping and irrigation system.

Sec. 16-13-30. Scope and applicability.

- (a) The provisions of this Article shall apply to all new construction of multi-family housing **with more than twelve units, common interest community property**, commercial development, public/civic, **institutional**, light industrial and industrial development, **as well as street rights-of-way, parking lots, medians, and transportation corridors**.
- (b) Existing or nonconforming landscapes. Landscapes installed prior to the effective date of the ordinance codified in this Article, and not in compliance herewith, shall be regarded as nonconforming landscapes that may continue as long as the landscapes are properly maintained in conformance with the other ordinances of the City. If uses or buildings regulated by this Article are reconstructed, remodeled or added to where the alteration will affect more than fifty percent (50%) of the aggregate landscape area will be impacted, **the impacted** landscaping shall be updated to meet all applicable code requirements in effect at that time.

Sec. 16-13-40. Definitions.

Whenever the following words or phrases are used in this Article, they shall have the following meanings:

Annual means a plant that lives only one (1) year or growing season.

Bunch grass means those types of grasses that grow in clumps and do not spread to form a continuous sod mat and do not require regular mowing, as do turf grasses. Included are most of the native or prairie grasses such as bluestems, fescues, grammas, wheat grasses, etc.

Climate adapted grass means a grass that may not be native to the state of Colorado but that has water use requirements similar to native grasses.

Climate adapted plant means a plant that may not be native to the state of Colorado but that has water use requirements similar to native plants.

Coniferous means those evergreen plants whose foliage is needle-like, scale-like or awl-like and are cone-bearing.

***Common Interest Community Property* means property within a common interest community that is owned and maintained by a unit owners association, such as entryways, parks and other common elements.**

Deciduous means a plant with foliage that is shed annually.

***Drip Irrigation* means a system that delivers water directly to a plant's root zone, minimizing the amount of water applied and maximizing the effectiveness of the water used**

Evergreen means a plant with foliage that persists and is green year-round and may or may not be coniferous.

***Functional Artificial Turf* means artificial turf that is 1) Located in a recreational use area or other space that is regularly used for civic, community, or recreational purposes, which may include a playground, a sports field, a picnic ground, an amphitheater, a portion of a park, and the playing area of a golf course, such as a driving range, chipping and putting green, tee box, green, fairway, and rough; or 2) A component of a product designed and approved by a professional engineer for civil infrastructure projects, including but not limited to covers for solid waste facilities and brownfield sites; and revetments for slopes, channels, levees, and dams.**

***Functional Turf* means turf that is located in a recreational use area or other space that is regularly used for civic, community, or recreational purposes which may include: a playground, a sports field, a picnic ground, an amphitheater, a portion of a park, and the playing area of a golf course, such as a driving range, chipping and putting green, tee box, fairway and rough.**

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202 Railroad Avenue, Rifle, CO 81650

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Groundcover means low-growing perennial and/or evergreen plants, other than turf grass, which grow and spread in such a manner as to provide continuous plant coverage. Such plants are typically shorter than eighteen (18) inches and may include herbs, ivies, ornamental grasses, perennials, spreading evergreens, succulents, vines and wildflowers. Annuals, mulches and stone are not considered groundcovers.

Hedge means a continuous, living, landscape barrier consisting of closely planted shrubs maintained at a height of greater than two (2) feet. Trees of any kind, other than upright junipers, shall not be pruned, sheared, trimmed or otherwise treated as hedges, but may be planted, as approved, to form wind-rows, visual screens or sound barriers.

Invasive Plant Species means weeds which are plants that are not native to the state and that:

- a. Are introduced into the state accidentally or intentionally;
- b. Have no natural competitors or predators in the state because the state is outside their competitors' range or predators' range; and
- c. Have harmful effects on the state's environment or economy or both.

Landscaping means aesthetic improvements using natural and manmade materials as defined below (landscaping materials). Landscaping areas may also include, by way of example but not by way of limitation, parts of the following: playgrounds, sports fields, picnic grounds, amphitheaters, portions of park, and playing areas of golf courses, courtyards, entranceways | ~~basketball courts, pools, tennis courts, playgrounds~~ or similar recreational areas or uses.

Landscaping materials means, but is not limited to, trees, shrubs, vines, and plants of all descriptions (excluding weeds, noxious plants and other unkempt invasive vegetation) and other materials and treatments such as stone, mulches and other nonliving landscape materials.

Living plant material coverage means the covering of raw ground or bare soil with living landscape materials at a growth size of two-thirds (2/3) maturity, such as shrubs, groundcovers, perennials, vines and all plants of all descriptions (excluding weeds or other unkempt vegetation). Living plant material shall be distributed throughout the entire landscape treatment area so as to avoid over-massing of plant materials or creating disproportionately large areas containing no living plant material.

Mulch means nonliving matter, such as bark chips, chipped wood products, pole shavings, stone and any approved like materials customarily used in landscapes for the purpose of retaining soil moisture, retarding weed growth and stabilizing soils.

Native grass means a grass species that is indigenous to the State of Colorado.

Native plant means a plant species that is indigenous to the State of Colorado

Nonfunctional artificial turf means artificial turf that is not functional artificial turf.

Nonfunctional turf means turf that is not functional turf. Nonfunctional turf includes turf located in a street right-of-way, parking lot, median, or transportation corridor. Nonfunctional turf does not include turf that is designated to be part of a water quality treatment solution required for compliance with federal, state, or local agency water quality permitting requirements that is not irrigated and does not have herbicides applied.

Nonliving landscaping materials means, but shall not be specifically limited to, manmade or artificial materials used for decorative or ornamental purposes such as fountains, monuments, statues, planting containers and trestles and frames; but excluding artificial plants, shrubs, bushes, trees and flowers.

Ornamental grass means native and climate adapted grasses ~~those types of grasses~~ that grow in clumps, and do not spread to form a continuous mat, as do turf grasses. Bunch grasses and other taller, more decorative types of grasses may be considered ornamental when grown as accents in conjunction with other plants in larger bed-plantings.

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Ornamental tree means a tree, typically fifteen (15) to twenty (20) feet tall at maturity, that is planted for its decorative value, perhaps in screening applications rather than for shading purposes. They are usually deciduous but may include short growing conifers such as upright junipers, pinion pine and bristlecone pine.

Perennial means those types of herbaceous flowering plants which live for several years and "die back" annually to grow again the next season without having to be replaced or replanted.

Planting bed means any landscape area covered with a non-turf surface such as rocks, gravel, mulch, or like material, into which trees, shrubs, and ornamental grasses are planted.

Shade tree means a tree, over fifteen (15) to twenty (20) feet tall at maturity, that is deciduous and planted for its wider canopy, higher bottom branch scaffold and shading value and does not include conifers or evergreens of any kind.

Shrub means a long-lived deciduous, evergreen or coniferous woody plant, typically multi-stemmed and having a mature height of between three (3) and fifteen (15) feet, and does not include perennials.

Stone means any rock material that may fall under further sub-classification, such as river rock, cobble, flagstone, boulders and others. Any stone material used in landscape applications must be at least three-fourths ($\frac{3}{4}$) inch in diameter or cross-section. Squeegee and road-base are not acceptable materials within the definition of "stone."

Street tree means trees strategically planted, usually in parkway strips, medians or along streets, to enhance the visual quality of a street.

Tree means a long-lived deciduous, evergreen or coniferous woody plant, typically single-stemmed and having a mature height of fifteen (15) feet or more.

Turf grass means those types of **non-native** grasses **that have not been hybridized for arid conditions** that do not grow in clumps but, rather, spread naturally to form a continuous sod mat. Such are the grasses customarily used in lawn applications, typically available in sod form, being tolerant of foot traffic, and presenting a finished, maintained appearance with proper care.

Weeds means plants included in the Garfield County Vegetation Management Program Noxious Weed List.

Water-wise landscaping | Xeriscape means **water conservation through creative landscape design that reduces water consumption, landscape maintenance and the use of fertilizers and pesticides. Principles associated with xeriscaping include appropriate the combined application of the seven principals of planning and design including hydrozoning of plants, use of functional turf areas, appropriate plant selection, irrigation efficiency, soil improvements analysis and improvement, efficient irrigation, uses of mulches, and appropriate maintenance.**

***Water-wise plant* means a plant that is a native plant or a climate adapted plant that uses less water.**

Sec. 16-13-50. Submittal requirements.

Landscape plans developed by a commercial nursery, licensed landscape contractor or landscape architect shall be submitted with the application for a building permit for any project subject to the provisions of this Article. The following information shall be included on required plans:

- (1) Calculation of net site area showing all existing and proposed structures, parking and access areas, and any other paved areas.
- (2) Calculation of required landscape treatment area.
- (3) Location and dimensions of areas to be landscaped and areas of existing landscaping (landscape treatment area).
- (4) Location, general type and quality of existing vegetation.
- (5) Existing vegetation to be saved.

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202 Railroad Avenue, Rifle, CO 81650

Phone: 970-665-6490 Fax: 970-625-6268



- (6) Locations and labels for all proposed plants.
- (7) Plant lists or schedules with the botanical and common names, quantity, spacing and size of all proposed landscape materials at the time of planting.
- (8) Location and description of other landscape improvements such as earth berms, walls, fences, screens, sculptures, fountains, street furniture, lights and courts or paved areas.
- (9) Location and coverage of required irrigation systems.
- (10) Planting and installation details as necessary to ensure conformance with all required standards.
- (11) Confirmation that all turf and artificial turf areas are functional and that no nonfunctional turf or nonfunctional artificial turf is used in the design.
- (12) Confirmation that no invasive plant species (per the county's noxious weed list) are used in the design.
- (13) Confirmation that plants used include a mix of native plants and/or climate adapted plants suited to the region.
- (14) Guarantee from the developer that all plant materials will be warranted for a period of twenty-four (24) months from the time of installation. If any of the material should fail to survive during that period, it will be replaced during the next appropriate planting season with materials similar in type and size to those outlined on the approved landscape plans. If a material fails because it is an inappropriate selection for the site where installed, such material shall be replaced with a more appropriate plant for that site and shall be of approximately the same size as the material specified on landscape plans for that location.

Sec. 16-13-60. Certificate of occupancy.

- (a) No final inspection shall be completed or certificate of occupancy (C.O.) issued, except as stated in Subsection (b) below, for any multi-family (greater than 12 units), commercial, public/civic, light industrial or industrial property that is required to provide landscaping in conformance with these regulations unless all landscaping on the property has been installed and has been accepted in writing as correct by the commercial nursery, licensed landscape contractor or landscape architect that developed the approved landscape plans for such property.
- (b) Final inspections may be completed and C.O.s issued by the Director of Planning and Development prior to the installation or completion of the landscaping when weather conditions or other circumstances, such as the winter season, place an unreasonable burden or hardship on the developer or builder. Such burden or hardship must be documented in writing by a commercial nursery or licensed landscape contractor stating that it would be impractical or unwise to install landscape materials due to conditions such as those outlined above. All landscape improvements allowed under a delayed installment must be completed within one (1) year of the date of issuance of the C.O. Additional time may granted by the Director of Planning and Development when conditions or circumstances such as those previously described herein prevent completion.
- (c) In those instances where a C.O. is granted prior to the installation of landscaping, the developer or builder shall be required to provide a surety, such as a cash escrow or letter of credit, for one hundred twenty percent (120%) of the estimated cost of materials and labor for the installation of the landscaping. The surety shall be in a form and amount approved by the Director of Planning and Development to guarantee that, by an agreed-upon date, the required landscaping is installed according to the approved landscape plan, or the surety will be subject to forfeiture to the City. The City then may apply the surety funds towards installation of landscaping on the subject property, or seek other enforcement remedies.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

202 Railroad Avenue, Rifle, CO 81650

Phone: 970-665-6490 Fax: 970-625-6268



- (d) In those instances where a C.O. is granted prior to the installation of landscaping, the developer or builder must meet all of the City's sediment and erosion control requirements by an agreed-upon date as established by the Department of Public Works.
- (e) All landscaping material and labor estimates presented by developers in connection with the issuance of a C.O. prior to landscape installation shall be prepared by a commercial nursery, licensed landscape contractor or landscape architect, and such estimate shall be signed and dated by the person who prepared it. The Director of Planning and Development must approve the estimate before submittal of any surety.

Sec. 16-13-70. Plant sizes.

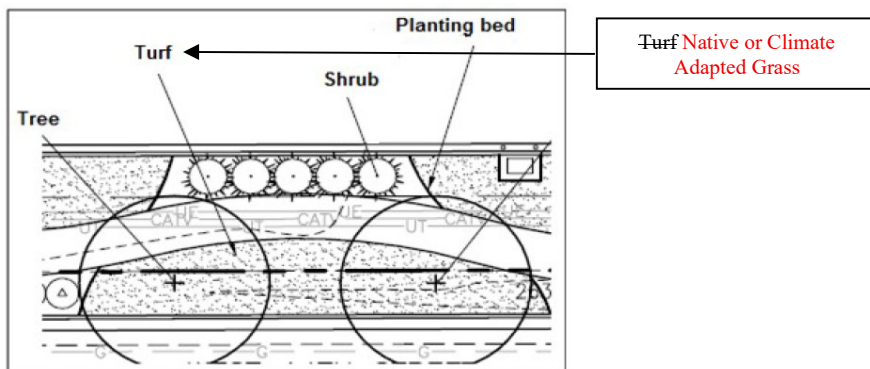
The caliper of deciduous and ornamental trees shall be measured six (6) inches above the base. Plant materials shall meet the requirements outlined in Table 16-13-1.

Table 16-13-1

Plant Type	Minimum Size
Deciduous Tree	2" Caliper
Evergreen Tree	6' Tall
Ornamental Tree	1½" Caliper
Shrubs	#5 Container
Ornamental Grasses	#1 Container
Perennial and Groundcovers	2¼" pots
Annual Plants/Flowers	As purchased

Sec. 16-13-80. General landscape requirements.

- (a) Landscape treatment area. Commercial, industrial, civic, and multi-family uses (**greater than 12 units**) shall have landscape treatment areas that include all areas of the site not covered by structures, bodies of water, driveways, sidewalks, plazas, hardscape recreation areas, parking lots, or ditches.
- (b) Specific landscape treatment areas are further addressed in:
 - (1) Right-of-way landscaping (Sec. 16-13-90);
 - (2) Parking lot landscaping (Sec. 16-13-100).



Typical components of a landscape treatment area.

- (c) All landscape treatment areas shall meet the following standards:

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

202 Railroad Avenue, Rifle, CO 81650

Phone: 970-665-6490 Fax: 970-625-6268



- (1) *Turf.* A maximum of fifty percent (50%) of the total landscape treatment area may be covered with **The use of nonfunctional turf is prohibited.** Native **and climate adapted** grasses may be used **in traditional turf areas** as a non-turf alternative. If kept in a healthy and weed-free state native grasses may grow to a mature height of above eight (8) inches without being considered a weed. **Functional turf is allowed only in a recreational use area or other space that is regularly used for civic, community, or recreational purposes which may include: a playground, a sports field, a picnic ground, an amphitheater, a portion of a park, and the playing area of a golf course, such as a driving range, chipping and putting green, tee box, fairway and rough.**
- (2) *Planting beds.* Any area of the site covered by rock, gravel, or mulch is defined as a planting bed. The following standards are intended to provide a diversity of landscape materials within planting beds.
 - a. Planting beds shall have a minimum of one (1) planting (tree, shrub, or ornamental grass) per twenty-five (25) square feet of planting bed area.
 - b. The maximum usage of any one (1) plant species is fifty percent (50%) of total plantings.
 - c. Ornamental grasses shall be no more than forty percent (40%) of the total number of plantings.
 - d. At least fifty percent (50%) of plantings shall meet **water-wise plant** ~~low water-use (xeric)~~ criteria. See Appendix C Recommended Plant Materials List ~~plant list~~.
 - e. River cobble as a planting bed ground cover shall not cover more than fifty percent (50%) of the total landscape treatment area, and is not permitted in street buffers for commercial zones, to preserve public safety. Pea gravel, organic mulch, or other similar materials are preferred alternatives.
 - f. At least ten percent (10%) of plants shall be of a flowering variety. Flowering plants should be used along rights-of-way or in foundation landscaping areas. See Appendix C **Recommended Plant Materials List** ~~plant list~~.
- (3) *Trees.* See tree requirements for rights-of-way (Sec. 16-13-90) and parking lots (Sec. 16-13-100).
 - a. Trees in unspecified landscape areas. Landscape treatment areas not within defined right-of-way, parking lot, or foundation areas shall provide trees at a ratio of **a minimum of** one (1) tree per four hundred (400) square feet. Exception: In areas away from public use and view, and where it is appropriate for the site to retain a natural character, the Planning Director may approve use of unirrigated native grasses in place of tree requirements.
 - b. Quaking aspen trees shall be permitted but shall not count towards required trees.
- (4) *Airport Road landscape buffer.* The minimum landscape buffer along Airport Road shall be fifteen (15) feet in Commercial zones and twenty (20) feet in Light Industrial zones. The intent of this requirement is to provide a continual landscape buffer regardless of the location of parking lots within developments on Airport Road. The buffer shall meet general landscape requirements and right-of-way landscaping requirements. Additionally, evergreen trees shall not be permitted in Light Industrial zones on Airport Road due to elk and deer feeding habits.
- (5) *Artificial Turf.* **The use of nonfunctional artificial turf is prohibited. Functional artificial turf may be used in a recreational use area or other space that is regularly used for civic, community, or recreational purposes, which may include a playground, a sports field, a picnic ground, an amphitheater, a portion of a park, and the playing area of a golf course, such as a driving range, chipping and putting green, tee box, green, fairway, and rough. Functional artificial turf may also be used when it is a component of a product designed and approved by a professional engineer for civil infrastructure projects, including but not limited to covers for solid waste facilities and brownfield sites; and revetments for slopes, channels, levees, and dams.**

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

202 Railroad Avenue, Rifle, CO 81650

Phone: 970-665-6490 Fax: 970-625-6268



Sec. 16-13-90. Right-of-way landscape standards.

Each development shall provide trees and landscaping within public rights-of-way and transportation easements as described in Table 16-13-2.

Table 16-13-2

Type of Sidewalk	Tree Type	Number of Trees	Landscape Treatment Area	Planting requirements
Detached Sidewalk	Deciduous	1 per 40 linear feet, placed between street and sidewalk	Entire area between sidewalk and curb and remaining right-of-way on opposite side of sidewalk	Per General Landscape Requirements Exception: turf may be 100%
Attached Sidewalk	Deciduous	1 per 40 linear feet. In the CBD, trees shall be placed within tree grates on inner edge of sidewalks at least 8' in width. Otherwise, trees placed within 10 feet of the sidewalk	Per requirements of this chapter for the specific location	Per General Landscape Requirements and, if applicable, Parking Lot Landscaping
Road Right-of-Way Islands/Medians	Deciduous, Ornamental, or Evergreen	1 per every 40 linear feet	Entire interior of island	Per General Landscape Requirements Exception: no landscaping on islands less than 5 feet wide

Sec. 16-13-100. Parking lot landscaping.

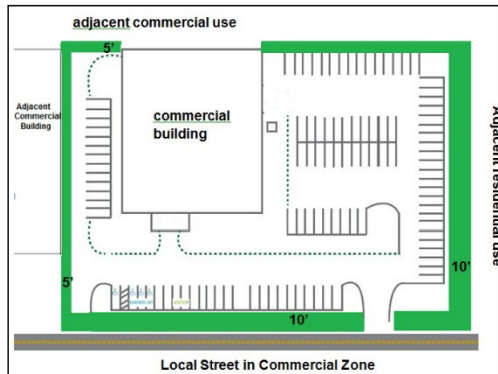
The definition of parking lots shall include storage areas, gas station fueling areas, parking lot access drives, or other paved or graveled areas.

- (1) Parking Lot Perimeter Landscaping. The entire perimeter of a parking lot shall be landscaped according to Table 16-13-3.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

202 Railroad Avenue, Rifle, CO 81650

Phone: 970-665-6490 Fax: 970-625-6268



The depth of the parking lot landscaping buffer is determined by the adjacent right-of-way or land use.

**Table 16-13-3
Parking Lot Perimeter Standards**

Adjacent right-of-way or land use	Minimum depth of landscape buffer (feet)	Planting and screening requirements
Interstate 70	50	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General landscape requirements per Sec. 16-13-80. • At least 50% of the linear footage of a buffer adjacent to a street must be composed of planting beds to provide vertical screening of the lot. • River cobble is not permitted in street buffers in multi-family or commercial zones. • 1 tree per 40 linear feet (following right-of-way street tree standards in Sec. 16-13-90).
State highway	20	
Local street in Central Business District	5	
Local street in commercial or multifamily zone	10	
Airport Road in commercial zone	15	
Local street in light industrial or industrial zone	20	
Residential use (or any higher-impact use adjacent to lower-impact use)	10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Screening: minimum 6-foot fence. • General landscape requirements per Sec. 16-13-80. • 1 evergreen tree per 25 linear feet.
Commercial use adjacent to other commercial use	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No screening. • General landscape requirements per Sec. 16-13-80.
Not adjacent to a street or a lot line	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 tree per 40 linear feet.
Alley in Central Business District	0	none

- (2) Parking Lot Interior Landscaping. There shall be one (1) landscaped island for every fifteen (15) parking spaces. Parking lots with less than fifteen (15) spaces are exempt from this requirement.
 - a. Landscape islands. Landscape islands shall be evenly distributed to the maximum extent possible. Landscape islands shall be a minimum of eighteen (18) feet by six (6) feet for single rows and thirty-six (36) feet by six (6) feet for double rows of parking spaces. Islands shall have raised concrete curbing and shall contain a minimum of one (1) deciduous shade tree and six (6) shrubs and/or plants for single rows and two (2) deciduous shade trees and twelve (12) shrubs and/or plants in each landscape island for double rows. The remaining landscaping shall consist of a mulched planting bed. Turf is prohibited in parking lot islands.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

202 Railroad Avenue, Rifle, CO 81650

Phone: 970-665-6490 Fax: 970-625-6268



- b. All required landscape areas adjacent to vehicle use areas shall be protected by wheel stops, curbs or other physical barriers. When a parking space abuts a landscape island or planter, the front two (2) feet of the required parking space may overhang the planter, provided that wheel stops or curbing are present.

Sec. 16-13-110. Planting for safety at intersections and near driveways.

- (a) Sight Distance Triangle. On corner lots, in order to preserve sight distances, an unobstructed view shall be maintained within the triangular area at the intersection of two (2) streets, which is formed by three (3) points as established by:
 - (1) The intersection of the flowline at the corner;
 - (2) By measuring thirty (30) feet back from this intersection on each flowline; and
 - (3) Connecting the two (2) ends of the legs to form a triangle.
- (b) No landscaping within a required front yard setback, or within the side yard setback on corner lots, shall exceed a height of forty-eight (48) inches, with the exception of trees. Such trees, at sufficient maturity, shall be trimmed to a height of at least eight (8) feet above the gutter flow line.
- (c) Street trees shall be placed a minimum of eight (8) feet from the corners of alleys and driveways, ten (10) feet from intersections, and fifteen (15) feet from overhead utility and light poles.

Sec. 16-13-120. Screening elements of low visual interest.

Landscape or other materials shall be used to screen areas of low visual interest from the public right-of-way. These elements include, but are not limited to, trash receptacles, service areas, loading docks, and utility boxes and pedestals. Screening shall be provided on all sides, except where an opening is required for access. The access side shall permit access, yet the areas should be screened when access is not required. Screening shall be in the form of landscaping, walls, fences, berms, buildings or a combination of these techniques. The screening around trash receptacles shall be a minimum of six (6) feet in height.

Sec. 16-13-130. Irrigation.

- (a) A permanently installed, automatic underground irrigation system shall be established to provide total water coverage to all plant materials installed pursuant to this Article. An exception is made for drip irrigation systems, which may be aboveground.
- (b) If native dryland grass species are planted, irrigation shall occur for at least the first six (6) weeks after installation, although no permanently installed irrigation system is required.
- (c) **Once functional turf has been established, supplemental irrigation shall be implemented as required to maintain turf areas.**
- (ed) A reduced pressure backflow preventer shall be used on all systems. Where the irrigation point of connection is from the domestic water service, the irrigation tap and backflow preventer shall be installed after the water meter but before any backflow or pressure-reducing valve for the building.

Sec. 16-13-140. Replacement and maintenance.

- (a) After the initial twenty-four-month guarantee period when failing landscape materials will be replaced by the developer/contractor in conformance with this Article, the property owner shall be responsible for the replacement of any landscape materials that die. All replacement plant material shall be of the same type and size as the original material installed according to the approved landscape plan, or an equivalent replacement to be approved by the Director of Planning and Development Director.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

202 Railroad Avenue, Rifle, CO 81650

Phone: 970-665-6490 Fax: 970-625-6268



- (b) All materials included in the landscape treatment area shall be maintained in a manner resulting in a landscape consistent with the original intent and vision of accepted landscape plans. As an example, typical maintenance activities should include mowing, pruning, weeding, replacing mulch and any other practices required to maintain the aesthetic integrity of landscape areas.

Sec. 16-13-150. Plant materials lists.

- (a) All installed trees and shrubs must be selected from the **Recommended Plant Materials List** contained in Appendix C to this Code. Any annual or perennial flower or grass available through local nurseries may be incorporated into landscapes required by this Article.
- (b) Trees and shrubs not included in these lists may also be installed at the discretion and approval of the Director of Planning and Development.
- (c) Replacement plant material shall be of the same type and size as the original material installed according to the approved landscape plan, or an equivalent replacement to be approved by the Director of Planning and Development Director.

Findings

Pursuant to RMC Section 16-5-280, the Planning and Zoning Commission shall consider the following criteria when determining whether or not to recommend approval of the proposed amendment to City Council:

- 1. Conformance of the proposal with the City of Rifle Municipal Code.

The proposal is in conformance with the Rifle Municipal Code.

- 2. The compatibility of the proposal with the character of the surrounding area, including but not limited to the architectural character of the neighborhood, the average lot and building sizes in the neighborhood, and the relative value of the proposed structure to the value of other structures in the neighborhood.

The proposal will be compatible with the character of Rifle. Staff feels that this amendment will address the immediate requirements of SB24-005 and the future requirements of HB25-1113.

- 3. The desirability for the proposed use in the specific area of the City.

The zoning code is enforced Citywide by appropriate zone district.

- 4. The potential for adverse environmental effects that might result from the proposed use.

No adverse environmental effects are anticipated from the proposal. Amendment will help to preserve the City's water resources.

- 5. Compatibility of the proposed use and the site (or subdivision) plan with the City of Rifle Comprehensive Plan.

No Comprehensive Plan issues were noted as part of the review.

- 6. The potential impact of the proposed use upon the value of property and buildings within the surrounding area; and

No negative impacts to property values are anticipated. Amendment will not impact single family residential projects or multi-family residential projects of 12 units or less.

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202 Railroad Avenue, Rifle, CO 81650

Phone: 970-665-6490 Fax: 970-625-6268



7. Conformance of the proposal with the approval requirements concerning water and sewer tap availability for high volume use requests pursuant to 13-4-120 of the Code, if applicable.

Not applicable.

Staff Comments

Staff has encouraged recent developments to adopt “Xeriscape”, now “Water-Wise” landscaping. Recent examples are Rifle Apartments and Big-O Tires. It is the opinion of staff that these projects have shown that drought-tolerant landscaping can be completed successfully in today’s development environment. Staff recommends that the Planning and Zoning Commission recommend approval of the proposed text amendment to Rifle City Council to address the requirements of SB24-005 and HB25-1113 requiring the adoption of “Water-Wise” landscaping standards.

Planning and Zoning Commission

The Commission reviewed the proposed text amendment at their December 9, 2025 workshop and heard the proposed amendment at the January 27, 2026 hearing. The Commission recommended approval of the text amendment with changes to accurately reflect all comments from Western Resource Advocates who reviewed the proposal for compliance with SB2024-005 and HB 2025-1113.

Recommendation

Planning and Zoning Commission recommends that the City Council approve the proposed text amendment 2026-001 as prepared by staff



Rifle Apartments Landscaping (<1 year)



Activity Area with "Water-Wise" materials



Activity Area with Functional and Non-Functional Grass



Big-O Tires Landscaping (1 year +)



Along Enterprise Court



Along Airport Road

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NAPA Auto Landscaping (4 years)



21st Street and Hwy 13



HWY 13 and Railroad Avenue

**CITY OF RIFLE, COLORADO
ORDINANCE NO. 5
SERIES OF 2026**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF RIFLE, COLORADO, AMENDING
ARTICLE 3 OF CHAPTER 16 OF THE RIFLE MUNICIPAL CODE TO AMEND
LANDSCAPING STANDARDS

WHEREAS, the City of Rifle (“Rifle” or the “City”) is a home-rule municipality organized pursuant to Article XX of the Colorado Constitution and with the authority of the Rifle Home Rule Charter; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 16 of the Rifle Municipal Code (the “Code”) regulates land use, zoning and development within the City; and

WHEREAS, City Staff has made certain recommendations to the City’s zoning requirements to alter landscaping guidelines; and

WHEREAS, the Planning and Zoning Commission has reviewed the regulations contained within this ordinance and has provided its comments and recommendations in support of adopting the amendments to the Code; and

WHEREAS, the Rifle City Council finds and determines that it is in the best interests of the citizens of Rifle to amend Chapter 16 of the Code consistent with these recommendations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RIFLE, COLORADO, THAT:

Section 1. The foregoing recitals are incorporated herein as if set forth in full.

Section 2. Section 16-1-220 of the Rifle Municipal Code, “Definitions”, is hereby amended to add the underlined text , as follows:

Common Interest Community means real estate described in a declaration with respect to which a person, by virtue of such person’s ownership of a unit, is obligated to pay for real estate taxes, insurance premiums, maintenance, or improvement of other real estate described in a declaration. Ownership of a unit does not include holding a leasehold interest in a unit of less than forty years, including renewal options. The period of the leasehold interest, including renewal options, is measured from the date the initial term commences.

Section 3. Section 16-13-10 of the Rifle Municipal Code, “General provisions”, is hereby amended as follows, with underlined text added and with ~~strike through language~~ deleted, as follows:

Sec. 16-13-10. General provisions.

Landscaping shall refer to any combination of living plants such as trees, shrubs, plants, vegetative ground cover, ~~and~~ functional turf, native and climate adapted grasses, and may include natural nonliving elements such as rock, stone and bark, as well as structural features, including

but not limited to walks, fences, benches, and works of art, ~~reflective pools and fountains.~~

Section 4. Section 16-13-20 of the Rifle Municipal Code, “Purpose and intent”, is hereby amended as follows, with underlined text added and with ~~strike through language~~ deleted, as follows:

Sec. 16-13-20. Purpose and intent.

The purpose and intent of this Article is to protect the health and welfare of the citizens of Rifle through the regulation of landscaping of new multi-family (greater than 12 units), common interest community property, commercial, public/civic, institutional, light industrial and industrial developments, as well as street rights-of-way, parking lots, medians, and transportation corridors. Installed landscapes should enhance property values, promote quality development, contribute to the visual character of new developments, and promote water conservation through water-wise landscaping ~~eriscaping~~. Water-wise landscaping ~~Xeriscap~~e principles are as follows:

(1) Design. Identify zones of different water requirements and group plants together that have similar water needs;

(2) Appropriate Use of Functional Turf. Limit high-irrigation turf and plantings to ~~appropriate high use areas with high visibility and functional needs~~ recreational use areas or other space that is regularly used for civic, community, or recreational purposes;

(3) Low-Water-Using Plants. For areas that are not regularly used for civic, community or recreational purposes, ~~Choose~~ low-water-demanding trees, shrubs and plants ~~and turf from Appendix C, as well as native and climate adapted grasses where practicable~~;

(4) Irrigation. Design, operate and maintain an efficient irrigation system;

(5) Soil Preparation. Incorporate soil amendments before planting;

(6) Mulch. Add mulch to planting beds to a minimum depth of three (3) inches;

(7) Maintenance. Provide regular and attentive maintenance to landscaping and irrigation system.

Section 5. Section 16-13-30 of the Rifle Municipal Code, “Scope and applicability”, is hereby amended as follows, with underlined text added and with ~~strike through language~~ deleted, as follows:

Sec. 16-13-30. Scope and applicability.

(a) The provisions of this Article shall apply to all new construction of multi-family housing with more than twelve units, common interest community property, commercial development, public/civic, institutional, light industrial and industrial development, as well as street rights-of-way, parking lots, medians, and transportation corridors.

(b) Existing or nonconforming landscapes. Landscapes installed prior to the effective date of the ordinance codified in this Article, and not in compliance herewith, shall be regarded as nonconforming landscapes that may continue as long as the landscapes are properly maintained in conformance with the other ordinances of the City. If uses or buildings regulated by this Article are reconstructed, remodeled or added to where the alteration will affect more than ~~fifty percent~~ (50%) of the building's gross floor area, or where more than fifty percent (50%) of the aggregate landscape area building's lot will be impacted, the impacted landscaping shall be updated to meet all applicable code requirements in effect at that time.

Section 6. Section 16-13-40 of the Rifle Municipal Code, "Definitions", is hereby amended as follows, with underlined text added and with ~~strike through language~~ deleted, as follows:

Sec. 16-13-40. Definitions.

Whenever the following words or phrases are used in this Article, they shall have the following meanings:

Annual means a plant that lives only one (1) year or growing season.

Bunch grass means those types of grasses that grow in clumps and do not spread to form a continuous sod mat and do not require regular mowing, as do turf grasses. Included are most of the native or prairie grasses such as bluestems, fescues, grammas, wheat grasses, etc.

Climate adapted grass means a grass that may not be native to the state of Colorado but that has water use requirements similar to native grasses.

Climate adapted plant means a plant that may not be native to the state of Colorado but that has water use requirements similar to native plants.

Coniferous means those evergreen plants whose foliage is needle-like, scale-like or awl-like and are cone-bearing.

Common Interest Community Property means property within a common interest community that is owned and maintained by a unit owners association, such as entryways, parks and other common elements.

Deciduous means a plant with foliage that is shed annually.

Drip Irrigation means a system that delivers water directly to a plant's root zone, minimizing the amount of water applied and maximizing the effectiveness of the water used.

Evergreen means a plant with foliage that persists and is green year-round and may or may not be coniferous.

Functional Artificial Turf means artificial turf that is 1) Located in a recreational use area or other space that is regularly used for civic, community, or recreational purposes, which may include a

playground, a sports field, a picnic ground, an amphitheater, a portion of a park, and the playing area of a golf course, such as a driving range, chipping and putting green, tee box, green, fairway, and rough; or 2) A component of a product designed and approved by a professional engineer for civil infrastructure projects, including but not limited to covers for solid waste facilities and brownfield sites; and revetments for slopes, channels, levees, and dams.

Functional Turf means turf that is located in a recreational use area or other space that is regularly used for civic, community, or recreational purposes which may include: a playground, a sports field, a picnic ground, an amphitheater, a portion of a park, and the playing area of a golf course, such as a driving range, chipping and putting green, tee box, fairway and rough.

Groundcover means low-growing perennial and/or evergreen plants, other than turf grass, which grow and spread in such a manner as to provide continuous plant coverage. Such plants are typically shorter than eighteen (18) inches and may include herbs, ivies, ornamental grasses, perennials, spreading evergreens, succulents, vines and wildflowers. Annuals, mulches and stone are not considered groundcovers.

Hedge means a continuous, living, landscape barrier consisting of closely planted shrubs maintained at a height of greater than two (2) feet. Trees of any kind, other than upright junipers, shall not be pruned, sheared, trimmed or otherwise treated as hedges, but may be planted, as approved, to form wind-rows, visual screens or sound barriers.

Invasive Plant Species means weeds which are plants that are not native to the state and that:

- a. Are introduced into the state accidentally or intentionally;
- b. Have no natural competitors or predators in the state because the state is outside their competitors' range or predators' range; and
- c. Have harmful effects on the state's environment or economy or both.

Landscaping means aesthetic improvements using natural and manmade materials as defined below (landscaping materials). Landscaping areas may also include, by way of example but not by way of limitation, parts of the following: playgrounds, sports fields, picnic grounds, amphitheaters, portions of park, and playing areas of golf courses, courtyards, entranceways basketball courts, pools, tennis courts, playgrounds basketball courts, pools, tennis courts, playgrounds or similar recreational areas or uses.

Landscaping materials means, but is not limited to, trees, shrubs, vines, and plants of all descriptions (excluding weeds, noxious plants and other ~~unkempt~~ invasive vegetation) and other materials and treatments such as stone, mulches and other nonliving landscape materials.

Living plant material coverage means the covering of raw ground or bare soil with living landscape materials at a growth size of two-thirds (2/3) maturity, such as shrubs, groundcovers, perennials, vines and all plants of all descriptions (excluding weeds or other unkempt vegetation). Living plant material shall be distributed throughout the entire landscape treatment area so as to avoid over-massing of plant materials or creating disproportionately large areas containing no living plant material.

Mulch means nonliving matter, such as bark chips, chipped wood products, pole shavings, stone

and any approved like materials customarily used in landscapes for the purpose of retaining soil moisture, retarding weed growth and stabilizing soils.

Native grass means a grass species that is indigenous to the State of Colorado.

Native pPlant means a plant species that is indigenous to the State of Colorado

Nonfunctional artificial turf means artificial turf that is not functional artificial turf.

Nonfunctional turf means turf that is not functional turf. Nonfunctional turf includes turf located in a street right-of-way, parking lot, median, or transportation corridor. Nonfunctional turf does not include turf that is designated to be part of a water quality treatment solution required for compliance with federal, state, or local agency water quality permitting requirements that is not irrigated and does not have herbicides applied.

Nonliving landscaping materials means, but shall not be specifically limited to, manmade or artificial materials used for decorative or ornamental purposes such as fountains, monuments, statues, planting containers and trestles and frames; but excluding artificial plants, shrubs, bushes, trees and flowers.

Ornamental grass means native and climate adapted grasses those types of grasses that ~~those types of grasses that~~ grow in clumps, and do not spread to form a continuous mat, as do turf grasses. Bunch grasses and other taller, more decorative types of grasses may be considered ornamental when grown as accents in conjunction with other plants in larger bed-plantings.

Ornamental tree means a tree, typically fifteen (15) to twenty (20) feet tall at maturity, that is planted for its decorative value, perhaps in screening applications rather than for shading purposes. They are usually deciduous but may include short growing conifers such as upright junipers, pinion pine and bristlecone pine.

Perennial means those types of herbaceous flowering plants which live for several years and "die back" annually to grow again the next season without having to be replaced or replanted.

Planting bed means any landscape area covered with a non-turf surface such as rocks, gravel, mulch, or like material, into which trees, shrubs, and ornamental grasses are planted.

Shade tree means a tree, over fifteen (15) to twenty (20) feet tall at maturity, that is deciduous and planted for its wider canopy, higher bottom branch scaffold and shading value and does not include conifers or evergreens of any kind.

Shrub means a long-lived deciduous, evergreen or coniferous woody plant, typically multi-stemmed and having a mature height of between three (3) and fifteen (15) feet, and does not include perennials.

Stone means any rock material that may fall under further sub-classification, such as river rock, cobble, flagstone, boulders and others. Any stone material used in landscape applications must be at least three-fourths ($\frac{3}{4}$) inch in diameter or cross-section. Squeegee and road-base are not

acceptable materials within the definition of "stone."

Street tree means trees strategically planted, usually in parkway strips, medians or along streets, to enhance the visual quality of a street.

Tree means a long-lived deciduous, evergreen or coniferous woody plant, typically single-stemmed and having a mature height of fifteen (15) feet or more.

Turf grass means those types of non-native grasses that have not been hybridized for arid conditions that do not grow in clumps but, rather, spread naturally to form a continuous sod mat. Such are the grasses customarily used in lawn applications, typically available in sod form, being tolerant of foot traffic, and presenting a finished, maintained appearance with proper care.

Weeds means plants included in the Garfield County Vegetation Management Program Noxious Weed List.

~~*Water-wise landscaping Xeriscape*~~ Xeriscape means ~~water conservation through creative landscape design that reduces water consumption, landscape maintenance and the use of fertilizers and pesticides. Principles associated with xeriscaping include appropriate~~ the combined application of the seven principals of planning and design including hydrozoning of plants, use of functional turf areas, appropriate plant selection, irrigation efficiency, soil improvements analysis and improvement, efficient irrigation hydro zoning of plants, use of practical turf areas, appropriate plant selection, uses of mulches, irrigation efficiency, and appropriate maintenance.

Water-wise plant means a plant that is a native plant or a climate adapted plant that uses less water.

Section 7. Section 16-13-50 of the Rifle Municipal Code, "Submittal requirements", is hereby amended as follows, with underlined text added and with ~~strike through language~~ deleted, as follows:

Sec. 16-13-50. Submittal requirements.

Landscape plans developed by a commercial nursery, licensed landscape contractor or landscape architect shall be submitted with the application for a building permit for any project subject to the provisions of this Article. The following information shall be included on required plans:

- (1) Calculation of net site area showing all existing and proposed structures, parking and access areas, and any other paved areas.
- (2) Calculation of required landscape treatment area.
- (3) Location and dimensions of areas to be landscaped and areas of existing landscaping (landscape treatment area).
- (4) Location, general type and quality of existing vegetation.
- (5) Existing vegetation to be saved.

- (6) Locations and labels for all proposed plants.
- (7) Plant lists or schedules with the botanical and common names, quantity, spacing and size of all proposed landscape materials at the time of planting.
- (8) Location and description of other landscape improvements such as earth berms, walls, fences, screens, sculptures, fountains, street furniture, lights and courts or paved areas.
- (9) Location and coverage of required irrigation systems.
- (10) Planting and installation details as necessary to ensure conformance with all required standards.
- (11) Confirmation that all turf and artificial turf areas are functional and that no nonfunctional turf or nonfunctional artificial turf is used in the design.
- (12) Confirmation that no invasive plant species (per the county's noxious weed list) are used in the design.
- (13) Confirmation that plants used include a mix of native plants and/or climate adapted plants suited to the region.
- (14) Guarantee from the developer that all plant materials will be warranted for a period of twenty-four (24) months from the time of installation. If any of the material should fail to survive during that period, it will be replaced during the next appropriate planting season with materials similar in type and size to those outlined on the approved landscape plans. If a material fails because it is an inappropriate selection for the site where installed, such material shall be replaced with a more appropriate plant for that site and shall be of approximately the same size as the material specified on landscape plans for that location.

Section 8. Section 16-13-60 of the Rifle Municipal Code, "Certificate of occupancy", is hereby amended with underlined text added as follows:

Sec. 16-13-60. Certificate of occupancy.

(a) No final inspection shall be completed or certificate of occupancy (C.O.) issued, except as stated in Subsection (b) below, for any multi-family (greater than 12 units), commercial, public/civic, light industrial or industrial property that is required to provide landscaping in conformance with these regulations unless all landscaping on the property has been installed and has been accepted in writing as correct by the commercial nursery, licensed landscape contractor or landscape architect that developed the approved landscape plans for such property.

(b) Final inspections may be completed and C.O.s issued by the Director of Planning and Development prior to the installation or completion of the landscaping when weather conditions or other circumstances, such as the winter season, place an unreasonable burden or hardship on the developer or builder. Such burden or hardship must be documented in writing by

a commercial nursery or licensed landscape contractor stating that it would be impractical or unwise to install landscape materials due to conditions such as those outlined above. All landscape improvements allowed under a delayed installment must be completed within one (1) year of the date of issuance of the C.O. Additional time may granted by the Director of Planning and Development when conditions or circumstances such as those previously described herein prevent completion.

(c) In those instances where a C.O. is granted prior to the installation of landscaping, the developer or builder shall be required to provide a surety, such as a cash escrow or letter of credit, for one hundred twenty percent (120%) of the estimated cost of materials and labor for the installation of the landscaping. The surety shall be in a form and amount approved by the Director of Planning and Development to guarantee that, by an agreed-upon date, the required landscaping is installed according to the approved landscape plan, or the surety will be subject to forfeiture to the City. The City then may apply the surety funds towards installation of landscaping on the subject property, or seek other enforcement remedies.

(d) In those instances where a C.O. is granted prior to the installation of landscaping, the developer or builder must meet all of the City's sediment and erosion control requirements by an agreed-upon date as established by the Department of Public Works.

(e) All landscaping material and labor estimates presented by developers in connection with the issuance of a C.O. prior to landscape installation shall be prepared by a commercial nursery, licensed landscape contractor or landscape architect, and such estimate shall be signed and dated by the person who prepared it. The Director of Planning and Development must approve the estimate before submittal of any surety.

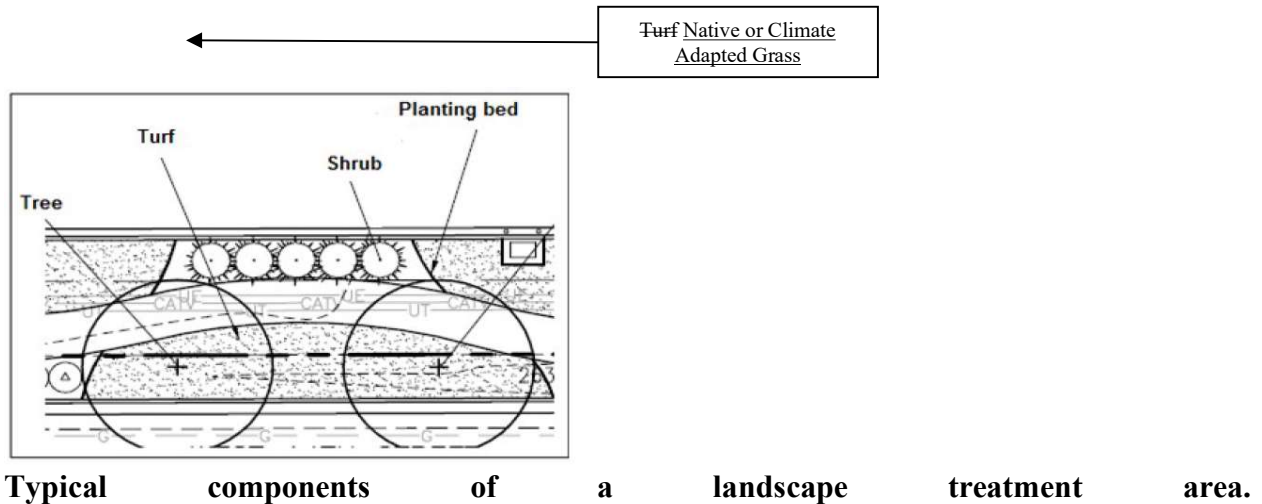
Section 9. Section 16-13-80 of the Rifle Municipal Code, “General landscape requirements”, is hereby amended, with underlined text added and with ~~strike-through language~~ deleted, as follows:

Sec. 16-13-80. General landscape requirements.

(a) Landscape treatment area. Commercial, industrial, civic, and multi-family uses (greater than 12 units) shall have landscape treatment areas that include all areas of the site not covered by structures, bodies of water, driveways, sidewalks, plazas, hardscape recreation areas, parking lots, or ditches.

(b) Specific landscape treatment areas are further addressed in:

- (1) Right-of-way landscaping (Sec. 16-13-90);
- (2) Parking lot landscaping (Sec. 16-13-100).



Typical components of a landscape treatment area.

(c) All landscape treatment areas shall meet the following standards:

(1) *Turf.* ~~A maximum of fifty percent (50%) of the total landscape treatment area may be covered with~~ The use of nonfunctional turf is prohibited. Native and climate adapted grasses may be used in traditional turf areas as a non-turf alternative. If kept in a healthy and weed-free state native grasses may grow to a mature height of above eight (8) inches without being considered a weed. Functional turf is allowed only in a recreational use area or other space that is regularly used for civic, community, or recreational purposes which may include: a playground, a sports field, a picnic ground, an amphitheater, a portion of a park, and the playing area of a golf course, such as a driving range, chipping and putting green, tee box, fairway and rough.

(2) *Planting beds.* Any area of the site covered by rock, gravel, or mulch is defined as a planting bed. The following standards are intended to provide a diversity of landscape materials within planting beds.

a. Planting beds shall have a minimum of one (1) planting (tree, shrub, or ornamental grass) per twenty-five (25) square feet of planting bed area.

b. The maximum usage of any one (1) plant species is fifty percent (50%) of total plantings.

c. Ornamental grasses shall be no more than forty percent (40%) of the total number of plantings.

d. At least fifty percent (50%) of plantings shall meet water-wise plant low water use (xeric) low water use (xeric) criteria. See Appendix C Recommended Plant Materials List ~~plant list.~~

e. River cobble as a planting bed ground cover shall not cover more than fifty percent (50%) of the total landscape treatment area, and is not permitted in street buffers for commercial zones, to preserve public safety. Pea gravel, organic mulch, or other similar materials are preferred alternatives.

f. At least ten percent (10%) of plants shall be of a flowering variety. Flowering plants should be used along rights-of-ways or in foundation landscaping areas. See Appendix C Recommended Plant Materials List ~~plant list~~.

(3) *Trees*. See tree requirements for rights-of-ways (Sec. 16-13-90) and parking lots (Sec. 16-13-100).

a. Trees in unspecified landscape areas. Landscape treatment areas not within defined right-of-way, parking lot, or foundation areas shall provide trees at a ratio of a minimum of one (1) tree per four hundred (400) square feet. Exception: In areas away from public use and view, and where it is appropriate for the site to retain a natural character, the Planning Director may approve use of unirrigated native grasses in place of tree requirements.

b. Quaking aspen trees shall be permitted but shall not count towards required trees.

(4) *Airport Road landscape buffer*. The minimum landscape buffer along Airport Road shall be fifteen (15) feet in Commercial zones and twenty (20) feet in Light Industrial zones. The intent of this requirement is to provide a continual landscape buffer regardless of the location of parking lots within developments on Airport Road. The buffer shall meet general landscape requirements and right-of-way landscaping requirements. Additionally, evergreen trees shall not be permitted in Light Industrial zones on Airport Road due to elk and deer feeding habits.

(5) *Artificial Turf*. The use of nonfunctional artificial turf is prohibited. Functional artificial turf may be used in a recreational use area or other space that is regularly used for civic, community, or recreational purposes, which may include a playground, a sports field, a picnic ground, an amphitheater, a portion of a park, and the playing area of a golf course, such as a driving range, chipping and putting green, tee box, green, fairway, and rough. Functional artificial turf may also be used when it is a component of a product designed and approved by a professional engineer for civil infrastructure projects, including but not limited to covers for solid waste facilities and brownfield sites; and revetments for slopes, channels, levees, and dams.

Section 10. Section 16-13-90 of the Rifle Municipal Code, “Right-of-way landscape standards”, is hereby amended, with ~~strike through language~~ deleted, as follows:

Sec. 16-13-90. Right-of-way landscape standards.

Each development shall provide trees and landscaping within public rights-of-way and transportation easements as described in Table 16-13-2.

Table 16-13-2

Type of Sidewalk	Tree Type	Number of Trees	Landscape Treatment Area	Planting requirements
Detached Sidewalk	Deciduous	1 per 40 linear feet, placed	Entire area between	Per General Landscape

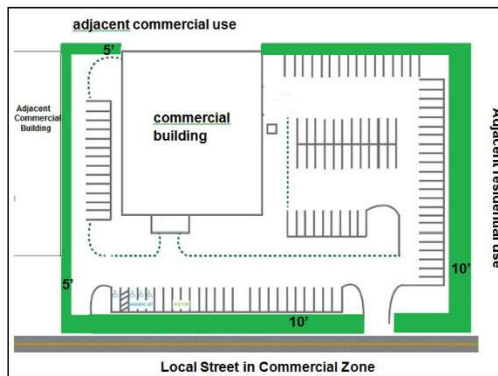
		between street and sidewalk	sidewalk and curb and remaining right-of-way on opposite side of sidewalk	Requirements Exception: turf may be 100%
Attached Sidewalk	Deciduous	1 per 40 linear feet. In the CBD, trees shall be placed within tree grates on inner edge of sidewalks at least 8' in width. Otherwise, trees placed within 10 feet of the sidewalk	Per requirements of this chapter for the specific location	Per General Landscape Requirements and, if applicable, Parking Lot Landscaping
Road Right-of-Way Islands/Medians	Deciduous, Ornamental, or Evergreen	1 per every 40 linear feet	Entire interior of island	Per General Landscape Requirements Exception: no landscaping on islands less than 5 feet wide

Section 11. Section 16-13-100 of the Rifle Municipal Code, “Parking lot landscaping”, is hereby amended, with ~~strike through language~~ deleted, as follows:

Sec. 16-13-100. Parking lot landscaping.

The definition of parking lots shall include storage areas, gas station fueling areas, parking lot access drives, or other paved or graveled areas.

(1) **Parking Lot Perimeter Landscaping.** The entire perimeter of a parking lot shall be landscaped according to Table 16-13-3.



The depth of the parking lot landscaping buffer is determined by the adjacent right-of-way or land use.

**Table 16-13-3
 Parking Lot Perimeter Standards**

Adjacent right-of-way or land use	Minimum depth of landscape buffer (feet)	Planting and screening requirements
Interstate 70	50	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> General landscape requirements per Sec. 16-13-80.
State highway	20	
Local street in Central Business District	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At least 50% of the linear footage of a buffer adjacent to a street must be composed of planting beds to provide vertical screening of the lot. River cobble is not permitted in street buffers in multi-family or commercial zones. 1 tree per 40 linear feet (following <u>right-of-way</u> ROW street tree standards in Sec. 16-13-90).
Local street in commercial or multifamily zone	10	
Airport Road in commercial zone	15	
Local street in light industrial or industrial zone	20	
Residential use (or any higher-impact use adjacent to lower-impact use)	10	
Commercial use adjacent to other commercial use	5	
Not adjacent to a street or a lot line	5	
Alley in Central Business District	0	none

(2) Parking Lot Interior Landscaping. There shall be one (1) landscaped island for every fifteen (15) parking spaces. Parking lots with less than fifteen (15) spaces are exempt from

this requirement.

a. Landscape islands. Landscape islands shall be evenly distributed to the maximum extent possible. Landscape islands shall be a minimum of eighteen (18) feet by six (6) feet for single rows and thirty-six (36) feet by six (6) feet for double rows of parking spaces. Islands shall have raised concrete curbing and shall contain a minimum of one (1) deciduous shade tree and six (6) shrubs and/or plants for single rows and two (2) deciduous shade trees and twelve (12) shrubs and/or plants in each landscape island for double rows. The remaining landscaping shall consist of a mulched planting bed. Turf is prohibited in parking lot islands.

b. All required landscape areas adjacent to vehicle use areas shall be protected by wheel stops, curbs or other physical barriers. When a parking space abuts a landscape island or planter, the front two (2) feet of the required parking space may overhang the planter, provided that wheel stops or curbing are present.

Section 12. Section 16-13-130 of the Rifle Municipal Code, "Irrigation", is hereby amended, with underlined text added and with ~~strike through language~~ deleted, as follows:

Sec. 16-13-130. Irrigation.

(a) A permanently installed, automatic underground irrigation system shall be established to provide total water coverage to all plant materials installed pursuant to this Article. An exception is made for drip irrigation systems, which may be aboveground.

(b) If native dryland grass species are planted ~~chosen for turf areas~~, irrigation shall occur for at least the first six (6) weeks after installation, although no permanently installed irrigation system is required.

(c) Once functional turf has been established, supplemental irrigation shall be implemented as required to maintain turf areas in a green and growing condition.

(ed) A reduced pressure backflow preventer shall be used on all systems. Where the irrigation point of connection is from the domestic water service, the irrigation tap and backflow preventer shall be installed after the water meter but before any backflow or pressure-reducing valve for the building.

Section 13. Section 16-13-150 of the Rifle Municipal Code, "Irrigation", is hereby amended, with underlined text added and with ~~strike through language~~ deleted, as follows:

Sec. 16-13-150. Plant materials lists.

(a) All installed trees and shrubs must be selected from the Recommended Pplant Mmaterials Llists contained in Appendix C to this Code. Any annual or perennial flower or grass available through local nurseries may be incorporated into landscapes required by this Article.

(b) Trees and shrubs not included in these lists may also be installed at the discretion and approval of the Director of Planning and Development.

(c) Replacement plant material shall be of the same type and size as the original material installed according to the approved landscape plan, or an equivalent replacement to be approved by the Director of Planning and Development Director.

INTRODUCED, on February 18, 2026, read in full, passed on first reading, and ordered published by title as required by the City Charter.

INTRODUCED a second time at a regular meeting of the Council of the City of Rifle, Colorado, held on March 4, 2026, approved without amendments, and ordered published in full as required by the Charter.

CITY OF RIFLE, COLORADO

By _____
Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk



Agenda Item #5.m.

Agenda Item Name:

Consider the 2026 Intergovernmental Agreement and Purchase Order Request for Mosquito Control with Garfield County

Presenter:

Patrick Waller, City Manager

Item Description:

Intergovernmental Agreement

Recommended Action:

Move to approve the 2026 Intergovernmental Agreement for Mosquito Control and authorize payment to Garfield County for joint mosquito control services in the amount of \$25,340.

Fiscal Impact:

\$25,340.00 is budgeted for this service for 2026 in the Grounds and Facilities budget.

Operational Impact:

This arrangement saves staff time and employs specialized expertise to monitor and mitigate possible disease vectors.

Prior Board Motions:

This program has received support with an annual expenditure since West Nile Virus in 2001.

Background Information:

This is a cooperative effort with Garfield County and County municipalities. The program began in 2001 with the spread of the West Nile Virus.

Executive Summary:

The vendor for the program is selected through the Garfield County purchasing process every three years, with the participation of municipality representatives. This program focuses on monitoring and reducing disease vectors (mosquitoes). The number of mosquitoes is monitored for nuisance levels, and in particular, the number of Culex Tarsalis mosquitoes is watched closely, as they are the primary carriers of WNV. Depending on disease prevalence, some mosquitoes may be tested to determine if they are infected.

Occasional ultra-low-volume spraying is required along West 2nd and the Rifle Rest Area--Lions Park Circle, and is supported, if not requested, by residents in these areas. Special event-related barrier treatments have been conducted around the fairgrounds and Centennial Park before large summer gatherings such as Independence Day and the Garfield County Fair. These operations are included in the program cost. Also, the vendor has the resources to do widespread aerial spraying at an additional cost if necessary.

Rifle's share of the cost is higher than that of other towns because Rifle has a larger area within its city limits. (5.61 approx).

Notification Requirements:

No additional notice required.

Prepared By:

Alexis Ramirez, City Clerk

Attachments:

1. 2026 Mosquito IGA
2. Mosquito Control IGA - Garfield County PO Request

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT FOR MOSQUITO CONTROL – 2026

THE PARTIES to this Intergovernmental Agreement for Mosquito Control (“IGA”) are the **BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF GARFIELD COUNTY, STATE OF COLORADO**, (hereinafter referred to as “**County**”); the **CITY OF GLENWOOD SPRINGS, STATE OF COLORADO**, (hereinafter referred to as “**Glenwood**”); the **TOWN OF CARBONDALE, STATE OF COLORADO**, (hereinafter referred to as “**Carbondale**”); the **CITY OF RIFLE, STATE OF COLORADO**, (hereinafter referred to as “**Rifle**”); the **TOWN OF SILT, STATE OF COLORADO**, (hereinafter referred to as “**Silt**”); the **TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, STATE OF COLORADO**, (hereinafter referred to as “**New Castle**”); and the **TOWN OF PARACHUTE, STATE OF COLORADO**, (hereinafter referred to as “**Parachute**”).

WHEREAS, the parties to this IGA are authorized by Section 29-1-201, *et seq.*, C.R.S., as amended, to provide for joint funding and cooperation to provide services and functions which each is otherwise lawfully authorized to provide; and

WHEREAS, the parties to this IGA desire to cooperate in funding and making available a County-wide mosquito control and education program; and

WHEREAS, a coordinated effort by the County and the municipalities within the County will permit a more effective mosquito control and education program and specifically will aid control of the mosquito species responsible for the spread of West Nile Virus.

NOW, THEREFORE, in mutual consideration of the premises and the covenants and promises set forth below, the parties to this IGA agree as follows:

1. **PROJECT**. The Project that is the subject of this IGA is a comprehensive integrated larval and adult mosquito control program, on public and private property throughout Garfield County that will be designed specifically for Garfield County and the municipalities by an independent contractor. The Project will provide surveillance, identifying mosquito breeding habitats and areas with high numbers of mosquito larvae and adults, with an emphasis on Culex mosquitoes. Surveillance will include the use of GIS mapping technology. The Project will include the use of chemical pesticides for adult and larval mosquito control in a manner safe to citizens, the environment and pets. Chemical applications will only be done when the elected officials of each pertinent jurisdiction, or their designated staff member, determine that mosquito levels have reached a threshold that poses a public health risk. Each jurisdiction is responsible for working with the Contractor to ensure that their jurisdiction is in compliance with the Federal Clean Water Act and the Colorado Discharge Permit System as administered by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment. The independent contractor will also provide community outreach and public education.

2. **PROJECT COSTS**. The cost for the entire Project that is the subject of this IGA shall not exceed Two Hundred Twenty-One Thousand Four Hundred Fifty Dollars and No Cents (\$221,450.00), with each town and city contributing the amounts set forth below for a total contribution of Sixty-Seven Thousand Seven Hundred Twenty Dollars and No Cents (\$67,720.00)

of the Project Cost. The remainder will be contributed by the County for the thirty-four (34) square miles of service area outside of the municipalities.

3. COUNTY RESPONSIBILITIES. The County shall be the coordinating entity and the contracting and fiscal authority for the Project. The County's responsibilities shall include the creation of the Request For Proposals ("RFP"), management of the RFP process, selection of the contractor and management of the contract. The County shall pay an amount not to exceed One Hundred Fifty-Three Thousand Seven Hundred Thirty Dollars and No Cents (\$153,730.00) of the total Project Cost of Two Hundred Twenty-One Thousand Four Hundred Fifty Dollars and No Cents (\$221,450.00), unless emergency services are required.

4. GLENWOOD SPRINGS RESPONSIBILITIES: Glenwood Springs shall be responsible for payment to the County of \$7,000.00.

5. CARBONDALE RESPONSIBILITIES: Carbondale shall be responsible for payment to the County of \$9,270.00.

6. RIFLE RESPONSIBILITIES: Rifle shall be responsible for payment to the County of \$25,340.00.

7. SILT RESPONSIBILITIES: Silt shall be responsible for payment to the County of \$6,800.00.

8. NEW CASTLE RESPONSIBILITIES: New Castle shall be responsible for payment to the County of \$7,670.00.

9. PARACHUTE RESPONSIBILITIES: Parachute shall be responsible for payment to the County of \$11,640.00.

10. PARTY RESPONSIBILITIES: All parties to this IGA shall cooperate with and assist the independent contractor chosen by the County to perform the work of the Project.

11. REMEDIES. If any of the cities or towns, identified in Paragraphs 4 through 9 above, fails to perform their payment obligation(s), the County may assume responsibility for the defaulting payment(s), and all other obligations of this IGA shall remain in full force and effect.

12. CONTRACT AWARD. The contract anticipated to define the Scope of Work needed for the Project shall be awarded by Garfield County pursuant to the terms of its Procurement Manual. The Notice to Proceed may be awarded prior to the payment obligations of the municipalities and towns being met.

13. INDEMNIFICATION. The parties acknowledge each is subject to the constitutional prohibitions against indemnification in Colo. Const. art XI, § 1. Neither can indemnify the other.

of the Project Cost. The remainder will be contributed by the County for the thirty-four (34) square miles of service area outside of the municipalities.

3. COUNTY RESPONSIBILITIES. The County shall be the coordinating entity and the contracting and fiscal authority for the Project. The County's responsibilities shall include the creation of the Request For Proposals ("RFP"), management of the RFP process, selection of the contractor and management of the contract. The County shall pay an amount not to exceed One Hundred Forty-Nine Thousand Two Hundred Fifty Dollars and No Cents (\$149,250.00) of the total Project Cost of Two Hundred Fifteen Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$215,000.00), unless emergency services are required.

4. GLENWOOD SPRINGS RESPONSIBILITIES: Glenwood Springs shall be responsible for payment to the County of \$7,000.00.

5. CARBONDALE RESPONSIBILITIES: Carbondale shall be responsible for payment to the County of \$9,270.00.

6. RIFLE RESPONSIBILITIES: Rifle shall be responsible for payment to the County of \$25,340.00.

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11. REMEDIES. If any of the cities or towns, identified in Paragraphs 4 through 9 above, fails to perform their payment obligation(s), the County may assume responsibility for the defaulting payment(s), and all other obligations of this IGA shall remain in full force and effect.

12. CONTRACT AWARD. The contract anticipated to define the Scope of Work needed for the Project shall be awarded by Garfield County pursuant to the terms of its Procurement Manual. The Notice to Proceed may be awarded prior to the payment obligations of the municipalities and towns being met.

13. INDEMNIFICATION. The parties acknowledge each is subject to the constitutional prohibitions against indemnification in Colo. Const. art XI, § 1. Neither can indemnify the other.

Nothing herein shall be interpreted as a waiver of governmental immunity to which each party would otherwise be entitled under Section 24-10-101, *et seq.*, C.R.S., as amended.

14. APPROPRIATION. This IGA is contingent upon appropriation and budgeting for the costs required for the Project. Should any party fail to appropriate or have available sufficient funds to pay for the costs of its obligations set forth herein, this IGA shall be considered of no force or effect, except to the extent that the County has assumed the obligations of another party, as set forth herein. This IGA is not intended to, nor does it create a multi-year fiscal obligation as defined by Section 20, Article X of the Constitution of the State of Colorado.

15. EFFECTIVE DATE. This IGA shall be effective January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2026, no matter the date of execution.

16. AMENDMENT. This IGA may be amended by the parties solely through a written agreement signed by each.

17. FACSIMILES AND COUNTERPARTS. This IGA may be signed in counterparts, and facsimile signatures may be substituted for original signatures.

18. GOVERNING LAW. The laws of the State of Colorado shall govern the validity, performance and enforcement of this IGA. Venue for any action instituted pursuant to this IGA shall lie in Garfield County, Colorado.

19. AUTHORITY. Each person signing this IGA represents and warrants that said person is fully authorized to enter into and execute this IGA and to bind the party represented to the terms and conditions hereof.

20. NOTICE. All notices required under this IGA shall be in writing and shall be hand delivered or sent by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, postage prepaid to the addresses of the parties set forth below. Notice addresses may be changed without amendment to this IGA.

Notice to County:

Board of County Commissioners
Attn: County Manager
108 8th Street, Suite 101
Glenwood Springs, CO 81601
Phone: (970) 945-5004
Fax: (970) 945-7785

Notice to Glenwood:

City of Glenwood Springs
Attn: City Manager
101 W. 8th St.
Glenwood Springs, CO 81601
Phone: 384-6400

Notice to Carbondale: Town of Carbondale
 Attn: Town Manager
 511 Colorado Avenue
 Carbondale, CO 81623
 Phone: (970) 963-2733
 Fax: (970) 963-9140

Notice to Rifle: City of Rifle
 Attn: City Manager
 202 Railroad Avenue
 P.O. Box 1908
 Rifle, CO 81650
 Phone: (970) 625-2121

Notice to Silt: Town of Silt
 Attn: Town Administrator
 231 N. 7th St., Box 70
 Silt, CO 81652
 Phone: (970) 876-2353

Notice to New Castle: Town of New Castle
 Attn: Town Administrator
 450 W. Main
 P.O. Box 90
 New Castle, CO 81647
 Phone: (970) 984-2311

Notice to Parachute: Town of Parachute
 Attn: Town Administrator
 222 Grand Valley Way
 Box 100
 Parachute, CO 81635
 Phone: (970) 285-7630

REMAINDER OF THIS PAGE LEFT BLANK INTENTIONALLY

ATTEST:

Clerk to the Board

**BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS
OF GARFIELD COUNTY,
COLORADO**

By: _____
Chairman

Dated: _____

ATTEST:

City Clerk

**CITY OF GLENWOOD SPRINGS,
STATE OF COLORADO**

By: _____
Mayor

Dated: _____

ATTEST:

Town Clerk

**TOWN OF CARBONDALE
STATE OF COLORADO**

By: _____
Mayor

Dated: _____

ATTEST:

City Clerk

**CITY OF RIFLE
STATE OF COLORADO**

By: _____
Mayor

Dated: _____

ATTEST:

Town Clerk

**TOWN OF SILT
STATE OF COLORADO**

By: _____
Mayor

Dated: _____

ATTEST:

**TOWN OF NEW CASTLE
STATE OF COLORADO**

Town Clerk

By: _____
Mayor

Dated: _____

ATTEST:

**TOWN OF PARACHUTE
STATE OF COLORADO**

Town Clerk

By: _____
Mayor

Dated:

T:\Vegetation Management\IGAs - Intergovernmental\MOSQUITO IGA\2026-IGA Mosquitos.doc



**CITY OF RIFLE
PURCHASE REQUEST**

1.	Vendor Name	NEW: W-9 attached <input type="checkbox"/>

2.	Vendor Address

3.	For the Purchase of (description)

4.	Amount Requested	Amount Budgeted	Finance Director Verified Funds Avail.

5.	Dept. Name	General Ledger Acct #

6.	Type of Purchase
Capital Construction	
Capital Construction – Change Order	
Capital Equipment	
Plant Equipment	
Materials, supplies, non-profession/technical services (includes computer/software maint.)	
Professional Services	
Utilities (includes equipment installation and ongoing contracts)	
Land, easements, ROW	

7.	Purchasing Process Required (Rifle Municipal Code sections for guidance)		
Cooperative Purchasing:		Sec 4-3-50	
Emergency Procurement		Sec. 4-3-235	
Small Purchases		Sec. 4-3-225	
Request for Proposal:		Sec. 4-3-220(b)	(attach bid tab)
Competitive Sealed Bid:		Sec.4-3-215	(attach bid tab & advertisement)
Miscellaneous Exemptions		Sec. 4-2-230	(attach memo)

8.	Authorization Required	
City Manager		
City Council		

9.	Signatures		
	Position	Signature	Date
	Department Director	<i>Austin Rickstrew</i>	
	City Manager		
	City Council Approval (meeting date)		

10.	Purchase Order # assigned by Finance	
------------	---	--

TABLE 1 - IS A PURCHASE ORDER NECESSARY

<u>Amount of Purchase</u>	<u>Is Purchase Order Needed</u>	<u>Method of Source Selection</u>
\$0.01 - \$10,000	No – Dept Head Approval	No special sourcing
\$10,000.01 - \$25,000	Yes – City Manager Approval	Yes – see table 2 below
\$25,000.01 or Greater	Yes – Council Approval	Yes – see table 2 below

TABLE 2 - METHODS OF SOURCE SELECTION

<u>Methods of source selection</u>	<u>Contract limits</u>
Competitive sealed bidding	Greater than \$50,000.00
Competitive sealed proposals	Greater than \$10,000.00 and less than \$50,000.00.
**Greater than \$50,000 allowed for Construction Manager/General Contractor proposals, or similar type proposal.	
Small purchases	Less than \$10,000.00 - DEPARTMENT HEAD DISCRETION

TABLE 3 - LOCAL VENDOR PREFERENCE

Contract Amount	Primary Preference In City Limits	Secondary Preference In County Out of City
Less than \$1,000	10% discount	5% discount
\$1,001 to \$5,000	8% discount	4% discount
\$5,001 to \$25,000	6% discount	3% discount
\$25,001 to \$100,000	5% discount	2% discount
\$100,000 to \$200,000	4% discount	2.5% discount
\$200,001 to \$500,000	3% discount	1.5% discount
\$500,000 or greater	2% discount	1% discount



Agenda Item #5.n.

Agenda Item Name:

Consider Letter of Support for Garfield County's Road 215 Reconstruction Project - CDS Application

Presenter:

Patrick Waller, City Manager

Item Description:

Letter of Support

Recommended Action:

Move to approve the Letter of Support For Garfield County Road 215 Reconstruction Project

Fiscal Impact:

N/A

Operational Impact:

N/A

Prior Board Motions:

N/A

Background Information:

N/A

Executive Summary:

Garfield County is in the process of applying for a CDS (Congressionally Designated Spending) allocation for the reconstruction of the northernmost portion of County Road 215. The road runs northwest out of Parachute. See attached letter for project description.

Notification Requirements:

No additional notice required.

Prepared By:

Patrick Waller, City Manager

Attachments:

1. Garfield County - County Road 215 Rebuild - Letter of Support

March 4, 2026

743 Horizon Court - Suite 112
Grand Junction
CO, 81506



Re: City of Rifle supports the Phase II County Road 215 Reconstruction project

Dear Congressman Hurd:

On behalf of the City Council of the City of Rifle, I am writing to express our support for the Garfield County Board of County Commissioners application to the Community Project Funding grant program for the Phase IV (North Segment) County Road 215 Reconstruction project.

With this funding, Garfield County will reconstruct a significantly deteriorated segment of County Road 215. This roadway provides critical access to the oil and gas fields northwest of Parachute, CO. While the oil and gas industry supplies revenue to local governments to assist with operations and capital projects, safety is also a major factor in our support of the project. Many residents of Rifle depend on natural resources development to support their families. Our citizens use County Road 215 and we want them to have decent, safe roads to reach work locations.

Please give Garfield County's project your full consideration.

Sincerely

Mayor Clint Hostettler



Agenda Item #7.a.

Agenda Item Name:

Highwater Farms

Presenter:

Patrick Waller, City Manager

Item Description:

Informational Item

Recommended Action:

No action on presentation items

Fiscal Impact:

N/A

Operational Impact:

N/A

Prior Board Motions:

N/A

Background Information:

N/A

Executive Summary:

Highwater Farms is a non-profit located outside of Silt. Becca Rogers will present to Council on farm operations.

Notification Requirements:

No additional notice required.

Prepared By:

Patrick Waller, City Manager

Attachments:

1. 3-4-26 Rifle City Council

Highwater farm

Growing Food. Empowering Youth. Fueling Community.











40 Crops, 120 Varieties





35,000 lbs harvested annually



120 CSA (Community Supported Agriculture) Shares 18 weeks



Youth Program

~50% of total youth served Rifle residents







Workshops

Movie Night



Community Lunch



Fall Brunch



Farm to Table Dinner





COMMUNITY EVENTS 2026

Community Lunch*/Almuerzo Comunitario

July. 15 | 11am - 1pm

Movie Night/ Noche de Película

Aug. 28 | 7:30pm

Farm to Table Dinner* /Cena de la Granja a la Mesa

Sept. 11 | 6 - 8pm

Fall Brunch* / Brunch de Otoño

Oct. 4 | 10am - 12pm

** Ticketed events - purchase on our website*

Event dates subject to change, please check website for details

** Eventos con boleto - compra boletos en nuestro sitio de web*

Las fechas del eventos podrían cambiar, consulte el sitio web para detalles

Get Involved!



Contribute!

Donate

In-kind

Visit Us!

Volunteer

Join us for an event

Buy our produce!

CSA registration is open

Thank you!

Rebecca Roberts, Executive Director

becca@highwaterfarm.org

716-248-0525

Highwater
farm
SILT, COLORADO





Agenda Item #8.a.

Agenda Item Name:

Consider Appointment to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

Presenter:

Austin Rickstrew, Parks & Recreation Director

Item Description:

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board (PRAB) has received three applications from community members seeking to serve on the board. PRAB has reviewed all the applications, conducted interviews, and recommends that Marisa Skajewski be appointed to the vacant alternate board seat.

Recommended Action:

Move to appoint Marisa Skajewski to fill the vacant alternate position on the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board.

Fiscal Impact:

N/A

Operational Impact:

N/A

Prior Board Motions:

N/A

Background Information:

The PRAB consists of 8 board members: 7 regular members and 1 alternate member. The current members of PRAB are:

- Annie MacGregor - Chairperson
- Aaron Cummings - Vice-Chairperson
- Ken Blatter - Secretary
- John Douglas - Member
- Betsey Seymour - Member
- Kirsten Clancy - Member
- Ari Philipson - Member
- Vacant - Alternate Member

City Staff solicited and received three applications for the vacant seat. The PRAB board is charged with screening board member applications, interviewing candidates, and recommending candidates to the Council

for appointment. The PRAB board has completed the prescribed process and recommended Marisa Skajewski for the alternate board seat. The other two candidates were Tyler Davis and Lydia LaBelle de Ríos.

Executive Summary:

N/A

Notification Requirements:

N/A

Prepared By:

Austin Rickstrew, Parks & Recreation Director

Attachments:

1. PRAB Application - Tyler Davis
2. PRAB_Rifle_LLRIOS
3. Skajewski PRAB Application 2026



Rifle Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Application 2026

Name Tyler Davis

Address 1161 Munro Ave

City Rifle State CO Zip 81650

Phone 970-319-3920 Alternate phone 970-665-9353

E-mail tdavis@shelterinsurance.com

Do you live within Rifle city limits? Yes No

If no, do you have a Rifle Address Yes No

Are you over the age of 55? Yes No

(This question is related to having one board member of 55 years of age or older)

Please answer all questions. Attach additional sheets as necessary.

1. Please describe your interest in becoming a member of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board (PRAB)?

I am a huge supporter of what Parks and Recreation does for our community and would like to help in continuing the direction it is on.

2. If appointed, what do you feel you could contribute to the PRAB?

I will bring strong Marketing, Management and business knowledge, skills and abilities to this position. I enjoy collaborating with others and expanding on ideas to bring the best solutions forward.

3. List any civic activities with which you have been involved.

- Young Guns of Rifle
- Rifle High + Middle School Wrestling Coach
- Journey Home Volunteer
- A-H Advisory Board President

4. What is your current involvement in Rifle Parks and Recreation?

- Sponsor
- City Resident that enjoys the Rifle Parks & services

5. Tell us about qualification you possess that could be beneficial to this board.

I am a local business owner with the knowledge of how to successfully take ideas and processes and successfully implement them into a system.

I also have a Bachelors of Business administration degree in Marketing + Management and Recreation Department?

6. In your opinion, what are the most significant issues facing the City of Rifle Parks and Recreation Department?

In my opinion, some of this issues Parks and Rec are facing are matching growth with staffing, and achieving optimal program participation in certain programs.

7. Please provide any additional comments which you believe will assist the PRAB/City Council in considering your application.

Oath of Applicant

I declare that this application and all attachments are true, correct, and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: _____



**Please return this form and attachments to arickstrew@rifleco.org
by 5:00 p.m. Friday, April 12, 2024.**



Rifle Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Application 2026

Name Lydia La Belle de Rios

Address 315 Will Ave.

City Rifle State CO Zip 81650

Phone (970) 217-8189 Alternate phone (970) 625-0189

E-mail lydiabea@yahoo.com or lydia.labellederos@usla.gov

Do you live within Rifle city limits? Yes No

If no, do you have a Rifle Address Yes No

Are you over the age of 55? Yes No

(This question is related to having one board member of 55 years of age or older)

Please answer all questions. Attach additional sheets as necessary.

1. Please describe your interest in becoming a member of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board (PRAB)?

I am interested in PRAB as a long time resident, parent, and avid user of the Parks + Rec program and want to help support and give back as we enter into the next chapter for Rifle!

2. If appointed, what do you feel you could contribute to the PRAB?

I feel I would contribute perspective from a mother of two teenagers in the community and sport/recreation enthusiast!

^{just} Some
References:

- Amy Wright (Library)
- Alex Garcia-Bernal (Library)
- Mandy Dorey (CNC)
- Hannah Arauz Aguirre (Community member)
- J. Zinner (KHS)

3. List any civic activities with which you have been involved.

- Longtime library volunteer
- Peace Corps Volunteer
- Volunteer w/ LiftUp, Veterans home, + church
- 4H volunteers and leaders
- Substitute teacher
- Volunteer in 4th schools over 20 years

4. What is your current involvement in Rifle Parks and Recreation?

My boys have grown up using these programs, as well as my husband coaching for soccer for many years. My boys have also worked for RP+R. We all sign up to participate in classes regularly.

5. Tell us about qualification you possess that could be beneficial to this board. + programs

- organizational & computer + facilitation skills
- program manager of 20 years w/ USFS
- interpersonal skills w/ over 5 programs + certification in programs like Emotional Intelligence, Critical Conversation, Conflict mgmt, Middle + Senior Leadership, Roaring Fork Leadership graduate etc...

6. In your opinion, what are the most significant issues facing the City of Rifle Parks and Recreation Department?

- housing + cost of living to support sufficient staff to help RP+R as they grow w/ our growing community
- demographics +/- "detached" community members + families that make it hard for them to fully support RP+R

7. Please provide any additional comments which you believe will assist the PRAB/City Council in considering your application.

al am a generally outspoken person and while I have learned to "reign" this in more it can also be a great asset when working to influence people + community w/ dedication steadfast dedication!

Oath of Applicant

I declare that this application and all attachments are true, correct, and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: Jydia J. Bellech Ripps

- Accountable
- Parent in Community
- Known as active community member
- Spanish culture + language!

* all speak Spanish + familiar w/ Latino culture (my husband)



Rifle Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Application 2026

Name Marisa Skajewski

Address 1458 E 12th St

City Rifle State CO Zip 81650

Phone 612-799-7930 Alternate phone 970-366-8939

E-mail marisaskajewski@gmail.com

Do you live within Rifle city limits? Yes No

If no, do you have a Rifle Address Yes No

Are you over the age of 55? Yes No

(This question is related to having one board member of 55 years of age or older)

Please answer all questions. Attach additional sheets as necessary.

1. Please describe your interest in becoming a member of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board (PRAB)?

I am interested in becoming a member of the parks and recreation advisory board because I value the work that the parks and recreation department is doing. I use Rifle parks and recreation trails everyday. I want to have a voice in how recreation opportunities are progressed within the community.

2. If appointed, what do you feel you could contribute to the PRAB?

If appointed, I would contribute a unique and informed perspective to the PRAB's discussions. As a school social worker within Garfield RE2 School District I serve students and families in Wamsley, Highland, Rifle Middle school, Rifle High School and the transitions program located at CMC. This role allows me to engage daily with a wide range of ages, backgrounds and schools at Garfield RE2. This provides me with a comprehensive understanding of the specific needs and barriers within our community.

I am prepared to be a strong advocate for the field house in order to ensure our community has access to year round high quality programming. I am passionate about the development of South Rifle, as I believe it will enhance the recreational opportunities in the area. Furthermore, I would advocate for increasing pool accessibility through seeking solutions to extend its seasonal use so more people can benefit from the aquatic services.

3. List any civic activities with which you have been involved.

I currently volunteer at Colorado National Monument. I have adopted a trail for the CMC connector trail which is a part of the Rifle Parks and Recreation trail system. I have volunteered for RAMBO. I volunteer at the local special olympic events within our community which are field day and bowling. I serve as a member of the student wellness strategic plan advocacy group within Garfield Re2 to help increase the social, physical, emotional and overall wellbeing of students, staff and families.

4. What is your current involvement in Rifle Parks and Recreation?

I currently am an avid trail user. I frequently use the Highland Trails, Grand hogback, Marrow draw, Lions Park, Rifle Creek Trail, Rifle Mountain Park trail just to name a few. I have adopted the CMC connector trail. I have attended a couple of the PRAB meetings in the past and have been involved in the activity center feasibility meetings. In the past I have also been involved as a participant in the 4v4 and 6v6 volleyball teams.

5. Tell us about qualification you possess that could be beneficial to this board.

Please see response below

6. In your opinion, what are the most significant issues facing the City of Rifle Parks and Recreation Department?

Some issues facing the City of Rifle Parks and Recreation Department is funding for new projects in order to meet the needs of the community. Based on the 2024 survey there is a high desire for programming such as a community center, indoor walking track, and adult programming. Those high need areas that were listed within the survey are important areas of improvement that would be valuable to work on growing. I think a community center in particular would be beneficial for Rifle to give all ages opportunities to recreate without having to worry about the weather or seasons.

7. Please provide any additional comments which you believe will assist the PRAB/City Council in considering your application.

I am a firm believer that the strength of a community is reflected in its public spaces. My desire to serve on the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board is driven by a deep personal and professional commitment to the City of Rifle.

Oath of Applicant

I declare that this application and all attachments are true, correct, and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: 

**Please return this form and attachments to arickstrew@rifleco.org
by 5:00 p.m. Friday, April 12, 2024.**

5. Tell us about qualifications you possess that could be beneficial to this board.

I am currently the lead social worker for Garfield RE2. I work with a wide array of ages, backgrounds, cultures, and socioeconomic levels. I collaborate with other professionals, parents, families and community stakeholders in order to increase student's overall wellbeing.

Outside of Rifle I built an adolescent diversion program where I helped connect local struggling youth to recreation opportunities within the community. I would get a referral for a local youth then help them determine their interests and try new programs within the community. I would connect them with activities such as mountain biking, wood working, yoga, fitness classes, swimming, bowling, snow shoeing and hiking just to name a few.

Additionally, I have experience with a variety of recreation related jobs outside of Rifle such as a swim instructor for classes ranging from child to adult lessons. I have also been a trip leader facilitating overnight adventure travel for teens consisting of hiking, camping, rock climbing, white water rafting and scuba diving. I worked as a camp counselor for two years teaching children how to ride horses.



Agenda Item #8.b.

Agenda Item Name:

Consider Middle Colorado Watershed Council Request for Letters of Support

Presenter:

Kate Collins

Item Description:

Consider two letters of support for grant funding for the Middle Colorado Watershed Council.

Recommended Action:

See Motions for Individual Items 9bi. and 9bii.

Fiscal Impact:

N/A

Operational Impact:

N/A

Prior Board Motions:

N/A

Background Information:

N/A

Executive Summary:

See individual agenda items.

Notification Requirements:

No additional notice required.

Prepared By:

Austin Rickstrew, Parks & Recreation Director

Attachments:

1. Rifle Presentation 03.04.2026

City of Rifle Annual Update

March 4, 2026

Kate Collins, Middle Colorado
Watershed Council
midcowatershed.org



Thank You, City of Rifle!

- Centennial Park Phase I engineering
 - Local investment unlocking outside funding
- Collaboration on Deerfield Park
- Fire & Water Speaker Series 2026
- Continued River Stop lease partnership





Rifle Creek Progress

- 6.5-mile corridor: Rifle Gap to Colorado River
- Moving from planning to engineering to construction
- Building long-term resilience for Rifle

Why it Matters

- Channel incision and bank instability
- Sediment loading from Government Creek
- Aging diversion infrastructure
- Invasive vegetation
- Flood risk in public parks

Leveraging Investment

- \$10,000 Aspen Environmental Foundation capacity grant in spring 2025
- \$250,000+ secured or pending funding
- Coordinated planning increases grant competitiveness

Centennial Park

- City: \$30,000 | Private donor: \$17,500
- River Restoration engineering modeling
- Channel stabilization and sediment reduction
- Positions project for Phase II construction funding

Deerfield Park – Climate Smart Communities Initiative

- COR Request: Partnership and Letter of Support
- \$112,000 grant application
- Modeling and engineering for shovel-ready design
- Floodplain reconnection and habitat improvements



Rifle Creek in Deerfield Park

Total Linear Feet Through City Properties: ~2,600 feet

Coordinate System: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 13N



Grand Tunnel Ditch Flume Replacement

- Fully funded | Construction Q1 2026
- Replacing 24-inch flume with 36-inch
- Serving 19 users including the City of Rifle
- Improved delivery reliability and resilience

Government Creek Sediment Control

- \$69,780 secured | \$10,000 secured | \$20,000 pending
- Sediment traps and channel re-contouring
- Low-tech restoration strategies
- Upstream improvements reduce downstream impacts

Community and Wildfire Resilience

- Forest Restoration and Wildfire Resilience Risk Mitigation Grant
- Funding for 3 years for program manager role
- Anticipate program manager in place April 2026

Fire & Water Speaker Series

[The American Southwest](#) March 28
[Firewise Futures](#) April 30 at The Ute

2026
FIRE &
WATER
SPEAKER SERIES

PRESENTED BY  HOTEL COLORADO
-1893-

Today's Requests

- Partnership on Climate Smart Communities Initiative Grant
 - Letter of Support for Deerfield Park modeling and engineering design

Questions? Discussion?



Thank you!





Agenda Item #8.b.i.

Agenda Item Name:

Letter of Support - Climate Smart Communities Initiatives Grant Application for Improvements to Rifle Creek in Deerfield Park

Presenter:

Kate Collins

Item Description:

Letter of Support - Climate Smart Communities Initiative

Recommended Action:

Move to approve the Letter of Support for Middle Colorado Council's Climate Smart Communities Initiatives grant

Fiscal Impact:

N/A

Operational Impact:

Staff would be involved in review and approval of any proposed improvements of Rifle Creek through Deerfield Park.

Prior Board Motions:

PRAB received a presentation from MCWC at the regular meeting on February 9th about the project along Rifle Creek at Deerfield Park. After the presentation, PRAB recommended that the City Council approve the letter of support for the grant application for the Deerfield Park Project.

Background Information:

N/A

Executive Summary:

Kate Collins, Executive Director of MCWC, will provide an update on the Deerfield Park - Climate Smart Communities Initiative and the Government Creed Sediment Control project.

If the MCWC receives the Climate Smart Communities Initiative Grant, it would require staff coordination throughout the project.

Notification Requirements:

No additional notice required.

Prepared By:

Alexis Ramirez, City Clerk

Attachments:

1. Climate Smart Communities Letter of Support



Date: March 4, 2026

Climate Smart Communities Initiative Review Committee
c/o Climate Resilience Fund

RE: Letter of Support for *Resilient Rifle: Restoring Deerfield Park and Rifle Creek*

Dear Review Committee Members,

On behalf of the City of Rifle, I express our strong and active commitment as a municipal partner in the Climate Smart Communities Initiative proposal, *Resilient Rifle: Restoring Deerfield Park and Rifle Creek*, submitted in collaboration with American Rivers and the Middle Colorado Watershed Council.

Rifle Creek flows directly through Deerfield Park, one of our community's most important and heavily used public spaces. The park and the creek are central to recreation, youth sports, community gatherings and everyday quality of life in Rifle. However, this reach of the creek is increasingly vulnerable to climate-related pressures including prolonged drought, more intense precipitation events, localized flooding, degraded water quality and wildfire-related watershed impacts. These stressors threaten municipal infrastructure, ecological health and safe public access.

This project directly advances priorities identified in the City's 2025 Energy and Resilience Action Plan and builds upon prior watershed and wildfire resilience planning completed by the Middle Colorado Watershed Council and its partners. By funding engineering modeling, restoration design and permitting, the Climate Smart Communities Initiative will help us move a clearly identified priority project from planning into implementation readiness.

The City of Rifle is a committed and hands-on partner in this effort. We will:

- Provide full site access to Deerfield Park and the Rifle Creek corridor within City jurisdiction.
- Actively coordinate across City engineering, planning and public works departments.
- Participate in hydrologic modeling review, restoration alternative evaluation and design refinement.
- Support permitting coordination and alignment with municipal infrastructure and safety standards.
- Collaborate on bilingual community engagement efforts to ensure meaningful public input.

Equitable resilience is a core value for our community. Deerfield Park serves residents of all ages and backgrounds, including many lower-income households who rely on public parks and open space for recreation, cooling and connection. Strengthening the health and stability of Rifle Creek through nature-based solutions will help reduce flood risk, protect water quality and ensure that all residents—particularly those with fewer resources and alternatives—benefit from a safer, more climate-resilient public space.

The City of Rifle values its longstanding partnership with the Middle Colorado Watershed Council and its new partnership with American Rivers. Together, we are building the technical, financial and community foundations necessary to implement durable, science-based restoration strategies that will serve our residents for generations.

We respectfully urge the Climate Smart Communities Initiative to support this collaborative effort to restore Rifle Creek through Deerfield Park, strengthen community resilience and protect one of Rifle's most vital public assets.

Sincerely,

Clint Hostettler, Mayor
City of Rifle



Agenda Item #8.b.ii.

Agenda Item Name:

Letter of Support - Colorado Healthy Rivers Grant Application for Sediment Control on Government Creek

Presenter:

Kate Collins

Item Description:

Letter of Support - Colorado Healthy Rivers

Recommended Action:

Move to approve the Letter of Support for Colorado Healthy Rivers

Fiscal Impact:

No city funding is requested if the grant is awarded.

Operational Impact:

If awarded, there will be some level of staff involvement including reviewing plans and attending check-in meetings.

Prior Board Motions:

N/A

Background Information:

Council has previously received a presentation from the Middle Colorado Watershed Council regarding improvements on Rifle and Government Creek.

Executive Summary:

Middle Colorado has provided the following description of the project:

"The objectives of this project are to utilize low-tech process-based restoration methods to improve stream processes and conserve water through natural storage. Anticipated long-term reductions in sediment transport and peak flow energy will yield measurable water quality improvements and infrastructure resilience"

Staff is supportive of working to alleviate sediment issues on Government Creek especially. Ultimately, any improvements on city property would have to be approved by City Staff and City Council.

Notification Requirements:

No additional notice required.

Prepared By:

Alexis Ramirez, City Clerk

Attachments:

1. Colorado Healthy Rivers Letter of Support



March 4, 2026

Colorado Watershed Assembly

RE: Support for Middle Colorado Watershed Council's Colorado Healthy Rivers Grant Application

Dear Grants Committee,

On behalf of the City of Rifle, I express strong support for the Middle Colorado Watershed Council's (MCWC) request of \$20,000 from the Colorado Watershed Assembly. This funding will advance the permitting for the Low-Tech Process-Based Restoration of Government Creek as part of the Rifle Creek Restoration Implementation Plan.

This project is essential to reducing sediment inflow into Rifle Creek, stabilizing the channel, and restoring hydrologic connectivity to its floodplain. With Colorado Healthy Rivers' investment in permitting, MCWC and its partners will be in a position to advance this project for shovel-ready implementation and associated construction funding.

The City of Rifle has been actively engaged in the Rifle Creek Restoration effort and recognizes the importance of collaborative solutions for watershed health. We commend MCWC's leadership for their project management, stakeholder engagement, and technical oversight in a process that began at the Sonoran Institute's Growing Colorado Watersmart Workshop in April 2025.

We also value the role of MCWC's board and the Rifle Creek Restoration Core Working Group in providing consistent guidance, coordination, and accountability.

We are confident that the Colorado Watershed Assembly's support will leverage additional investments and will contribute to long-term ecological and community resilience. These efforts will reduce erosion, improve riparian and aquatic habitat, and build resilience to persistent drought and wildfire risk in the Rifle Creek watershed.

Thank you for considering this important investment in Rifle Creek and the broader middle Colorado watershed. We look forward to a strong, continued partnership with MCWC to achieve our shared goals for ecological restoration and community resilience.

Sincerely,

Clint Hostettler, Mayor
City of Rifle



Agenda Item #8.c.

Agenda Item Name:

Consider Purchase of Two 2025 Ford Police Interceptor Utility Patrol Vehicles

Presenter:

Iris Trevisano, Procurement and Grant Reporting Manager
Debra Funston, Chief of Police

Item Description:

Vehicle Purchase

Recommended Action:

Move to approve the purchase of two 2025 Ford Police Interceptor Utility patrol vehicles from Phil Long Ford Denver in the amount of \$104,000

Fiscal Impact:

The Police Department budgeted for two patrol vehicles and upfits for **\$180,000**

Operational Impact:

It is planned to have 2 Patrol vehicles decommissioned in 2025 and one added.

Prior Board Motions:

N/A

Background Information:

The police department regularly retires vehicles that are either no longer economical to maintain or are non-functional. Through Section 4-3-50, Cooperative Purchasing via TIPS Contract (#240901) with Phil Long Ford of Denver we have sourced two 2025 Ford Police Interceptor Utility vehicles.

Executive Summary:

The police department budgeted for two replacement patrol vehicles for 2025. We have secured two 2025 Ford Police Interceptor Utility vehicles through Phil Long Ford of Denver which are currently available for immediate delivery upon approval.

These vehicles are 67H – Ready for the Road Package, featuring pre-installed wiring to accommodate police-specific equipment such as lights, sirens, and accessories with minimal additional work. One vehicle is a base model Police Interceptor, which does not include the pre-wiring package.

The vehicles come equipped with the requested 3.3L V6 Direct-Injection engine. The upfitting of each vehicle will be addressed in a separate request. After thorough discussion, staff recommends the purchase of two 2025 Ford Police Interceptor Utility vehicles through Phil Long Ford of Denver for \$104,000

Notification Requirements:

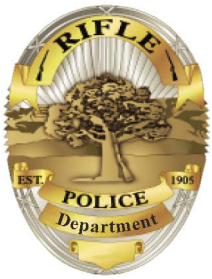
N/A

Prepared By:

Iris Trevisano, Procurement and Grant Reporting Manager

Attachments:

1. PO Request Memo 2 vehicles 2026
2. Purchasing Memo 2026 Two PD Vehicles
3. PD Phil Long Purchase Request pd 2026
4. 2026 Two PD Vehicles Phil Long Tips 240901



RIFLE POLICE DEPARTMENT



201 East 18th Street • Rifle, CO 81650-3237

DATE: March 4, 2026
TO: Iris Trevisano, Procurement and Grant Reporting Manager
FROM: Debra Funston, Chief of Police
RE: Purchase of 2 Police vehicles

Mr. Waller,

This memo is a request to purchase two (2) police vehicles for patrol in 2026. The police department budgeted \$180,000 towards the purchase and upfit for two new patrol vehicles. I am requesting authorization to move forward with these purchases.

Respectfully,

Debra Funston, Chief of Police



Procurement and Grant Reporting

City of Rifle

202 Railroad Avenue, Rifle, CO 8165

970-665-6412



MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Mayor Hostettler & City Council
CC: Patrick Waller, City Manager, Chief Funstone and Lt. Kuper
FROM: Iris Trevisano, Procurement and Grant Reporting
DATE: March 4, 2026

SUBJECT: Two 2025 Ford Police Interceptor Utility Patrol Vehicles

Background

The police department budgeted \$180,000 in the 2026 budget for the purchase and upfitting of two replacement patrol vehicles. We have secured two 2025 Ford Police Interceptor Utility vehicles through Phil Long Ford of Denver, which are available for immediate delivery upon approval.

Procurement

Under Section 4-3-50, Cooperative Purchasing through TIPS Contract (#240901), we have sourced these vehicles under a cooperative purchase agreement price of \$104,000

Vehicle Details

- Two vehicles include the 67H – Ready for the Road Package, featuring preinstalled wiring for police-specific equipment (lights, sirens, etc.).
- 3.3L V6 Direct-Injection engine.
- Upfitting will be addressed separately.

Staff Recommendation

After thorough discussion, staff recommends approval of the purchase of two 2025 Ford Police Interceptor Utility vehicles through Section 4-3-50, Cooperative Purchasing via TIPS Contract (#240901) for \$104,000

Iris Trevisano

Procurement and Grant Reporting Manager



**CITY OF RIFLE
PURCHASE REQUEST**

1.	Vendor Name	NEW: W-9 attached <input type="checkbox"/>

2.	Vendor Address

3.	For the Purchase of (description)

4.	Amount Requested	Amount Budgeted	Finance Director Verified Funds Avail.

5.	Dept. Name	General Ledger Acct #

6.	Type of Purchase
	Capital Construction
	Capital Construction – Change Order
	Capital Equipment
	Plant Equipment
	Materials, supplies, non-profession/technical services (includes computer/software maint.)
	Professional Services
	Utilities (includes equipment installation and ongoing contracts)
	Land, easements, ROW

7.	Purchasing Process Required (Rifle Municipal Code sections for guidance)		
	Cooperative Purchasing:	Sec 4-3-50	
	Emergency Procurement	Sec. 4-3-235	
	Small Purchases	Sec. 4-3-225	
	Request for Proposal:	Sec. 4-3-220(b)	(attach bid tab)
	Competitive Sealed Bid:	Sec.4-3-215	(attach bid tab & advertisement)
	Miscellaneous Exemptions	Sec. 4-2-230	(attach memo)

8.	Authorization Required	
		City Manager
		City Council

9.	Signatures		
	Position	Signature	Date
	Department Director		
	City Manager		
	City Council Approval (meeting date)		

10.	Purchase Order # assigned by Finance

TABLE 1 - IS A PURCHASE ORDER NECESSARY

<u>Amount of Purchase</u>	<u>Is Purchase Order Needed</u>	<u>Method of Source Selection</u>
\$0.01 - \$10,000	No – Dept Head Approval	No special sourcing
\$10,000.01 - \$25,000	Yes – City Manager Approval	Yes – see table 2 below
\$25,000.01 or Greater	Yes – Council Approval	Yes – see table 2 below

TABLE 2 - METHODS OF SOURCE SELECTION

<u>Methods of source selection</u>	<u>Contract limits</u>
Competitive sealed bidding	Greater than \$50,000.00
Competitive sealed proposals	Greater than \$10,000.00 and less than \$50,000.00.
**Greater than \$50,000 allowed for Construction Manager/General Contractor proposals, or similar type proposal.	
Small purchases	Less than \$10,000.00 - DEPARTMENT HEAD DISCRETION

TABLE 3 - LOCAL VENDOR PREFERENCE

Contract Amount	Primary Preference In City Limits	Secondary Preference In County Out of City
Less than \$1,000	10% discount	5% discount
\$1,001 to \$5,000	8% discount	4% discount
\$5,001 to \$25,000	6% discount	3% discount
\$25,001 to \$100,000	5% discount	2% discount
\$100,000 to \$200,000	4% discount	2.5% discount
\$200,001 to \$500,000	3% discount	1.5% discount
\$500,000 or greater	2% discount	1% discount



Quote	202669
Date	February 26, 2026
Contact: Cole Green 303.504.9403 chgreen@phillong.com	

TO: City of Rifle
Attn: Iris Trevisano
Fleet Manager
TIPS 240901

QUANTITY	DESCRIPTION	MSRP \$	Discounted Price
1	2025 Police Explorer Interceptor AWD Agate Black 3.3L Ti-VCT V6 VIN 1FM5K8ABXSG87767	54080.00	\$52,000.00
1	2025 Police Explorer Interceptor AWD Agate Black 3.3L Ti-VCT V6 VIN 1FM5K8AB3SG87772	54080.00	\$52,000.00
Additional Information: Net 30: ACH or check payment ; please contact Becky Christensen			104,000.00
if need further payment details, bchristensen@phillong.com , 303.933.5765			No Delivery Fee
Please contact Cole with any questions.			Tax Exempt
			\$104,000.00

Remit Payment to:
Phil Long Ford of Denver
7887 W. Tufts Ave, Littleton, CO 80123

THANK YOU FOR YOUR BUSINESS!

CHI-001809

CO

9-NORMAL, NB, 001809, SD081

8309

120250417 2805

CERT CERT CERT TRD RAMP BUMP CAMP BOOK EXPL ROTA

029152 32/261

1FM5K8AB3

SGB87772 NB

GU13



ford.com

VEHICLE DESCRIPTION

POLICE INTERCEPTOR SG B87772

2025 UTILITY AWD
119" WHEELBASE
3.3L TI-VCT V6 ENGINE
10-SPEED AUTO TRANSMISSION

EXTERIOR
AGATE BLACK METALLIC
INTERIOR
EBONY CLOTH FRT/VINYL REAR

STANDARD EQUIPMENT INCLUDED AT NO EXTRA CHARGE

EXTERIOR

- 18" H.D. STEEL WHEELS
- 255/60R18 A/S BSW POLICE TIRES
- CLASS III HITCH RECEIVER
- DUAL EXHAUST SYSTEM
- DUAL POWER MIRRORS
- FULL SIZE 18" SPARE W/TPMS
- HEADLAMPS - AUTO, LED LOW/HIGH INCLUDES FRONT HOUSING (W/ LED WIG-WAG)
- KEY LOCKS (DR/PASS/LFTGT)
- PRIVACY GLASS 2ND/3RD ROW

INTERIOR

- 35/30/35 SPLIT VINYL REAR
- A/C W/AUTOMATIC CLIMATE CONTROL, DUAL ZONE
- BLACK VINYL FLOOR COVERING
- CERTIFIED SPEEDOMETER
- CLOTH BUCKET FRONT SEATS
- CONSOLE MOUNTING PLATE
- ENGINE HOUR / IDLE METER
- HTD SANITIZATION SOLUTION
- RED/WHITE TASK LIGHTING
- PWR DR/PASS SEAT W/LUMBAR
- SEATBACK INTRUSION PLATES
- TILT/TELESCOPING STEERING WHL W/ 4 CONFIGURABLE LATCHING SWITCHES

FUNCTIONAL

- UNIVERSAL TOP TRAY
- AM/FM/MP3/BLUETOOTH & USB
- COLUMN MOUNTED SHIFTER
- ENGINE OIL COOLER
- FULL-TIME ALL WHEEL DRIVE SYSTEM
- HEAVY DUTY SUSPENSION
- HEAVY-DUTY 80-AMP BATTERY
- INTERIOR TRUNK/LIFTGATE RELEASE
- POLICE BRAKES: 4 WHL DISC W/ ABS & TRACTION CONTROL
- POWER STEERING W/EPAS
- REAR VIEW CAMERA
- TRANSMISSION OIL COOLER

SAFETY/SECURITY

- 75 MPH REAR-CRASH TESTED
- ADVANCETRAC™ WITH RSC®
- AIRBAGS - FRONT AND SIDE
- AIRBAGS - SAFETY CANOPY
- SOS POST CRASH ALERT SYS
- TIRE PRESSURE MONITOR SYS

WARRANTY

- 3 YR/36K MILE BUMPER-TO-BUMPER WARRANTY
- 5 YR/100K MILE POWERTRAIN CARE EXTENDED SERVICE PLAN (ZERO DEDUCTIBLE)

INCLUDED ON THIS VEHICLE

(MSRP)

EQUIPMENT GROUP 500A

OPTIONAL EQUIPMENT/OTHER

- FM STEREO
- 3.3L TI-VCT V6 ENGINE - 2,330.00
- 10-SPEED AUTO TRANSMISSION NO CHARGE
- READY FOR THE ROAD PACKAGE 3,800.00
- HID PLUNG W/R HNDL INOPERABLE
- 100 WATT SIREN / SPEAKER
- TAIL LAMP LIGHTING SOLUTION
- REAR LIGHTING SOLUTION
- REAR CONSOLE MOUNTING PLATE
- GLOBAL LOCK/UNLOCK NO CHARGE
- FRONT WARNING AUX LIGHT 590.00
- 50 STATE EMISSIONS NO CHARGE
- SPOT LAMP LED DUAL - WHELEN 670.00
- KEYED ALIKE - KEY CODE E 50.00
- FRONT HEADLAMP LIGHT SOLUTION NO CHARGE
- POL WIRE HARNESS CONNECTOR KIT 200.00
- POLICE WIRING KIT REAR
- POLICE WIRING KIT FRONT
- REAR DR HNDL AND LOCKS INOPR NO CHARGE
- FRONT LICENSE PLATE BRACKET NO CHARGE

PRICE INFORMATION

BASE PRICE	\$49,515.00
TOTAL OPTIONS/OTHER	2,970.00
TOTAL VEHICLE & OPTIONS/OTHER DESTINATION & DELIVERY	52,485.00
	1,595.00

(MSRP)

TOTAL MSRP \$54,080.00

Whether you decide to lease or finance your vehicle, you'll find the choices that are right for you. See your dealer for details or visit www.ford.com/finance.

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ITEM #:

56-C25G O/T 5B

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EPA DOT

Fuel Economy and Environment



Gasoline Vehicle

Fuel Economy



19 MPG
combined city/hwy

17 MPG
city

24 MPG
highway

5.3 gallons per 100 miles

Standard SUVs range from 12 to 115 MPG. The best vehicle rates 140 MPGe.

You spend \$4,250

more in fuel costs over 5 years compared to the average new vehicle.

Annual fuel cost \$2,750

Fuel Economy & Greenhouse Gas Rating (tailpipe only)

Smog Rating (tailpipe only)



This vehicle emits 462 grams CO2 per mile. The best emits 0 grams per mile (tailpipe only). Producing and distributing fuel also create emissions; learn more at fuelconomy.gov.

Actual results will vary for many reasons, including driving conditions and how you drive and maintain your vehicle. The average new vehicle gets 28 MPG and costs \$9,500 to fuel over 5 years. Cost estimates are based on 15,000 miles per year at \$3.50 per gallon. MPGe is miles per gasoline gallon equivalent. Vehicle emissions are a significant cause of climate change and smog.

fuelconomy.gov

Calculate personalized estimates and compare vehicles



Smartphone QR Code



GOVERNMENT 5-STAR SAFETY RATINGS

Overall Vehicle Score

Not Rated

Based on the combined ratings of frontal, side and rollover. Should ONLY be compared to other vehicles of similar size and weight.

Frontal Crash

Driver Passenger

Not Rated Not Rated

Based on the risk of injury in a frontal impact. Should ONLY be compared to other vehicles of similar size and weight.

Side Crash

Front seat Rear seat

★★★★★ ★★★★★

Based on the risk of injury in a side impact.

Rollover

★★★★★

Based on the risk of rollover in a single-vehicle crash.

Star ratings range from 1 to 5 stars (★★★★★), with 5 being the highest.

Source: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA).

www.safercar.gov or 1-888-327-4236

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WARNING: Operating, servicing and maintaining a passenger vehicle, pickup truck, van, or off-road vehicle can expose you to chemicals including engine exhaust, carbon monoxide, phthalates, and lead, which are known to the State of California to cause cancer and birth defects or other reproductive harm. To minimize exposure, avoid breathing exhaust, do not idle the engine except as necessary, service your vehicle in a well-ventilated area and wear gloves or wash your hands frequently when servicing your vehicle. For more information go to www.P65Warnings.ca.gov/passenger-vehicle.

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Mag & Data rates may apply. Text HELP for help



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029175
49/370

1FM5K8ABX

SGB87767 NB

GUT3



ford.com

VEHICLE DESCRIPTION

POLICE INTERCEPTOR SG B87767

2025 UTILITY AWD
119" WHEELBASE
3.3L TI-VCT V6 ENGINE
10-SPEED AUTO TRANSMISSION

EXTERIOR
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- POWER STEERING W/EPAS
- REAR VIEW CAMERA
- TRANSMISSION OIL COOLER

TRANSMISSION-10-SPEED AUTO SAFETY/SECURITY

- 75 MPH REAR-CRASH TESTED
- ADVANCETRAC™ WITH RSC®
- AIRBAGS - FRONT AND SIDE
- AIRBAGS - SAFETY CANOPY
- SOS POST CRASH ALERT SYS
- TIRE PRESSURE MONITOR SYS

WARRANTY

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- 5 YR/100K MILE POWERTRAIN CARE EXTENDED SERVICE PLAN (ZERO DEDUCTIBLE)

INCLUDED ON THIS VEHICLE

(MSRP)

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- REAR LIGHTING SOLUTION
- REAR CONSOLE MOUNTING PLATE
- GLOBAL LOCK/UNLOCK
- FRONT WARNING AUX LIGHT NO CHARGE
- 50 STATE EMISSIONS 580.00
- SPOT LAMP LED DUAL - WHELEN NO CHARGE
- KEYED ALIKE - KEY CODE E 670.00
- FRONT HEADLAMP LIGHT SOLUTION 50.00
- POL WIRE HARNESS CONNECTOR KIT NO CHARGE
- POLICE WIRING KIT REAR 200.00
- POLICE WIRING KIT FRONT
- REAR DR HNDL AND LOCKS INOPR NO CHARGE
- FRONT LICENSE PLATE BRACKET NO CHARGE

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TOTAL VEHICLE & OPTIONS/OTHER	52,485.00
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(MSRP)

EPA DOT

Fuel Economy and Environment



Gasoline Vehicle

Fuel Economy



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combined city/hwy

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highway

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You spend \$4,250

more in fuel costs over 5 years compared to the average new vehicle.

Annual fuel cost

\$2,750

Fuel Economy & Greenhouse Gas Rating (tailpipe only)



Smog Rating (tailpipe only)



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fueleconomy.gov

Calculate personalized estimates and compare vehicles



GOVERNMENT 5-STAR SAFETY RATINGS

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Front seat Rear seat

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Rollover

★★★★★

Based on the risk of rollover in a single-vehicle crash.

Star ratings range from 1 to 5 stars (★★★★★), with 5 being the highest.

Source: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA).

www.safercar.gov or 1-888-327-4236



The modern is active and sending vehicle data (e.g., diagnostics) to Ford. See in-vehicle settings for connectivity options.

FordPass[®] Connect (optional on select vehicles), the FordPass App and complimentary Connected Service are required for remote features. (See FordPass Terms for details). Connected service and features depend on compatible network availability. Evolving technology/cellular networks/vehicle capability may limit functionality and prevent activation of connected features. Connected service excludes Wi-Fi hotspot. See your local Ford website for our privacy policy.



Insist on Ford Protect! The only extended service plan fully backed by Ford and honored at every Ford dealership in the U.S., Canada and Mexico. See your Ford dealer or visit www.FordOwner.com.



WARNING: Operating, servicing and maintaining a passenger vehicle, pickup truck, van, or off-road vehicle can expose you to chemicals including engine exhaust, carbon monoxide, phthalates, and lead, which are known to the State of California to cause cancer and birth defects or other reproductive harm. To minimize exposure, avoid breathing exhaust, do not idle the engine except as necessary, service your vehicle in a well-ventilated area and wear gloves or wash your hands frequently when servicing your vehicle. For more information go to www.P65Warnings.ca.gov/passenger-vehicle.

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TOTAL MSRP \$54,080.00

RAMP ONE

CZ08

RAMP TWO

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ITEM #:

56-C20G O/T 5B



Whether you decide to lease or finance your vehicle, you'll find the choices that are right for you. See your dealer for details or visit www.ford.com/finance.

SPECIAL ORDER

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Agenda Item #9.a.

Agenda Item Name:

Report to City Manager

Presenter:

Patrick Waller, City Manager

Item Description:

Staff report on notable tasks completed within the individual departments.

Recommended Action:

No action necessary

Fiscal Impact:

None

Operational Impact:

None

Prior Board Motions:

None

Background Information:

None

Executive Summary:

Work Report to City Manager as of 02/27/2026.

Notification Requirements:

None

Prepared By:

Alexis Ramirez, City Clerk

Attachments:

1. 03.04.2026 Report to City Manager
2. OBJECTION TO HB26-1134
3. 2026 Social Report February Part 1
4. Rifle PD 2025 Annual Report

WORK REPORT TO CITY MANAGER

03.04.2026

PIO

- Press release on holiday closures.
- Attended Using AI to Understand Public Sentiment webinar put on by InnovateUS.

COURT

- The court handled 77 adult cases on the February 18 court date. We also held 02 telephone hearings with inmates in custody.
- Attended CML Legislative Update Webinar. HB26-1134, Fairness and Transparency in Municipal Court, is the main bill we are watching so far. This is a rebirth of HB25-1147 from last year and it sounds as though there will be a lot of modifications before its first introduction on February 25. We have sent a list of concerns to our lobbyist as well as the sponsors. We will also be sending a letter delineating our position and possibly heading down there to testify.
- Attended Missing in Actions: Understanding how missed appearances impact courts. Failures to appear is an issue that definitely seems to be increasing as the years pass. Technological enhancements such as sending text reminders has helped, but the problem is still prevalent. The seminar focused on the impacts of everything from caseload to financial consequences and staffing.

PARKS & RECREATION

Activity Center/Feasibility Study:

City staff met with the project consultants on Friday, 2/27, to review concept renderings and start to discuss the program cost analysis. This analysis will help us understand the cost to operate and maintain a facility. The report will include staffing, operational, and capital improvement costs.

Staffing Updates:

We have been working with HR to interview for the Golf Course General Manager, Golf Course Superintendent, Assistant Parks and Recreation Director, and seasonal positions. We currently have job offers out for the two full-time golf course positions and are awaiting responses. We have conducted about 10 interviews for the Assistant Director position and have had very strong candidates.

South Rifle Master Plan:

We continue to work with DHM and will have the final master plan ready to present over the next couple of months.

Birch Park:

Birch Park remains on schedule, with the majority of concrete work completed during our mild winter. We are awaiting confirmation of when the playground equipment will ship from the manufacturer. We are working with Design Concepts to schedule a time to come out and begin “tagging” trees to be planted in the park. The park is truly starting to take shape.



February 24, 2026

Dear Representative Mabrey, Representative Velasco, Senator Amabile, and Senator Weissman,

I am writing to express our concerns with the logistics of HB26-1134. Although the stated ideologies look great on paper, in practice they will function much differently, and likely not how intended, while simultaneously spending taxpayer dollars.

The requirement that every court proceeding be livestreamed is an unfunded mandate. Many smaller or rural courts don't have the equipment and personnel required to meet this standard. Rifle operates with two clerks- one in the courtroom and one at the front desk. Monitoring online presence requires at least one dedicated employee to ensure not only that the equipment is operating properly, but that the stream is functioning in terms of audio and visual quality. Technical difficulties with such equipment is commonplace. Technological maintenance, upgrades, licensing, and cybersecurity requirements are enormous expenses which many smaller courts have not added to their 2026 budgets.

Hiring and maintaining personnel to operate and monitor the equipment is crucial. As last year's "porn attacks" on state court livestreams demonstrated, no digital system is immune from hackers and other intentional efforts at disruption.

Extending the requirement of a livestream to hearings with incarcerated defendants will serve as a disadvantage to the inmates. Rifle Municipal Court makes every effort to hold hearings with these individuals as soon as possible, usually within hours of their arrest. We are able to accomplish this by holding phone hearings from wherever we are at the time. On weekends, this generally means that the judge, prosecutor, court administrator, and attorney are in four different locations linked by a conference call. Requiring all parties to be somewhere with internet and meeting access will certainly cause significant delays, much to the detriment of the defendant. This seems to run contrary to the purpose of the bill and its very title.



RIFLE MUNICIPAL COURT
OFFICE: 970-665-6420 • FAX: 970-665-6422
201 EAST 18TH STREET • RIFLE, CO 81650
WWW.RIFLECO.ORG

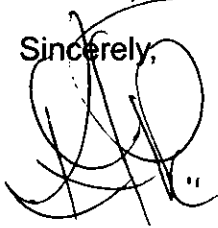
Continuing to require in-person appearances in court has the additional benefit of emphasizing the legitimacy of legal proceedings and the resulting consequences, particularly during a time when respect for courts and other government entities is on a precipitous downhill slide.

Further, the City of Rifle has extremely rigorous ADA protocols and a strict emphasis on customer service. We will always make accommodations for individuals who have legitimate reasons for being unable to attend in person.

Livestreaming will do nothing to further the administration of justice or foster fairness and equality. It simply caters to individuals who feel that they can't be inconvenienced to personally address their wrongdoings and can, instead, just "phone it in". Additionally, the proposed language of the bill appears to be all-encompassing with no exceptions for juveniles, victims, or sensitive crimes. If crime victims or other interested parties don't feel comfortable attending court but still want to participate, we will always find a way for them to appear remotely.

We are always happy to discuss our opinions. Between the Judge, City Prosecutor and Court Administrator, we have nearly 100 years combined experience in criminal law and are always happy to share how seemingly sound philosophies often result in very unanticipated results.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kathy Pototsky', with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Kathy Pototsky, JD

Rifle Municipal Court Administrator

City of Rifle Public Information Officer

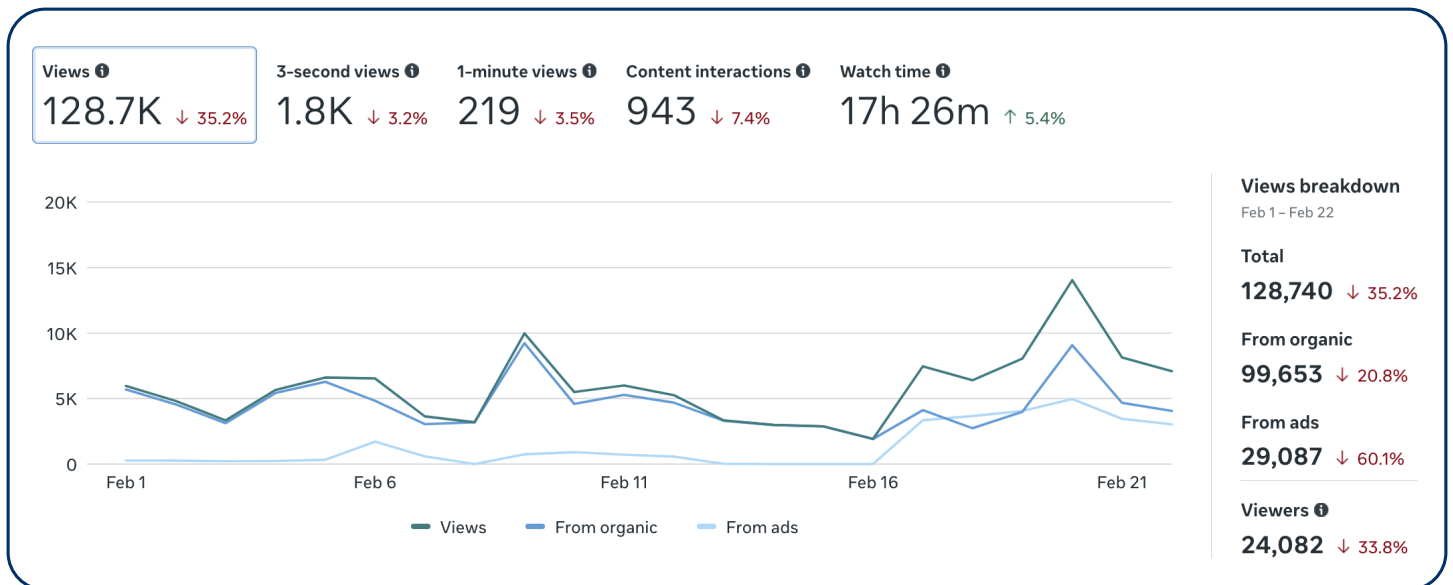
City of Rifle – Bi-Weekly Communication Update

Social Media Report | February 1-22, 2026

Facebook

This month appears to reflect the typical new-year dip in engagement. After a strong January, our Facebook page has seen a noticeable drop in activity. Through February 22, we recorded just under 129,000 views, which puts us slightly below my projected monthly goal of 200,000+ views. That said, I'm still optimistic that with a strong finish to the month we can close the gap.

Even with the slowdown, we have already surpassed February 2025's numbers. Year-over-year, February's 128,740 views represent a 114% increase compared to February 2025. Content this month included a mix of city employment opportunities, Birch Park updates, and Garfield County news. Promoting job openings helped support our reach during what was otherwise a slower content month.



The standout metric for February was watch time, which increased by 5.4%, showing that viewers are spending more time engaging with our content. During this period, three job ads ran and generated 29,087 views with a total spend of \$210.21. This aligns with our 2026 advertising strategy, which focuses on targeted paid promotion for select content. Promoting job postings has also helped the HR department increase application intake for these open positions.

Looking ahead, with the typical seasonal slowdown nearly behind us, we should start to see engagement increase. As construction season begins, city events return, entertainment picks up at the Ute Theater, and Recreation releases spring programs and swimming lesson schedules, social media activity and engagement are expected to ramp up in the coming months.

Top Performing Posts

Job Opening: HR Technician — Paid Ad (\$75.98)

— 30,681 views, 90 Link Clicks, 47 interactions: 41 Likes/Reactions, 0 Comments; 5 Shares, 1 save, 2 new follower

Job Opening: Community Development Tech — Paid Ad (\$44.11)

— 11,695 views, 68 Link Clicks, 30 interactions: 23 Likes/Reactions, 1 Comments; 6 Shares, 0 saves, 0 new followers

Job Opening: Bus Driver — Paid Ad (\$90.38)

— 7,435 views, 134 Link Clicks, 31 interactions: 17 Likes/Reactions, 12 Comments; 2 Shares, 0 saves, 0 new follower

Key Insights

• As of Monday, February 22, 2026, the account has 6,914 followers, an increase of 21 new followers since the last report. Our growth rate slowed in February, but we should get close to the 7,000 total followers on this platform by the end of March.

Current Metrics

— Gross Follows: 43

— Unfollows: 16

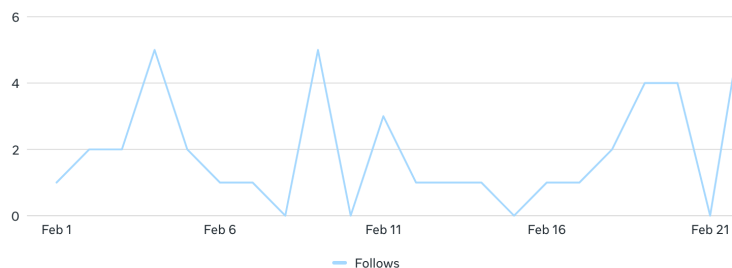
— Net Follows: 27

— Current Followers: 6,914

Audience

Demographics Trends Potential audience

Follows	Returning viewers	Engaged followers	Messaging contacts
43 ↓ 30.6%	0 ↓ 100%	103 ↑ 27.2%	36 ↑ 414.3%
Based on last 28 days			



Followers breakdown

Feb 1, 2026 – Feb 22, 2026

Unfollows 16 ↑ 6.7%
Net follows 27 ↓ 42.6%

Followers 6,914
Lifetime

Facebook Performance (Monthly Views — last 14 months)

	Month	Views	% Change
2025	February	128.7K	-35.2%
	January	239.6K	-21%
	December	299.1K	+47.7%
	November	211.4K	-2.3%
	October	223.5K	-16.2%
	September	261.6K	+31.1%
	August	391.1K	+77.8%
	July	219.9K	+33.7%
	June	164.4K	+362%
	May	36.3K	-61.2%
	April	79.4K	+7.8%
	March	73.9K	+108%
	February	34.9K	-30.6%
	January	55.1K	-42.2%

Daily Views — last Seven Days

Tuesday — Monday (Feb 17 — Feb 23)

Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
7,461	6,400	8,052	14,037	8,129	7,087	5,627



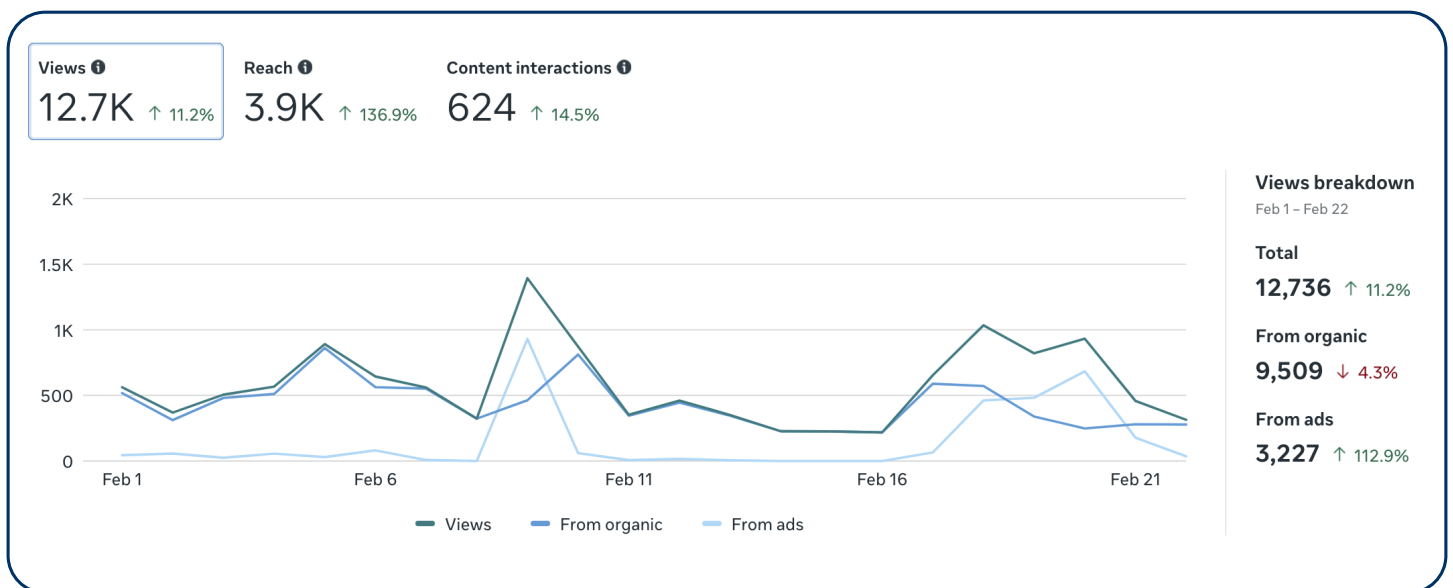


Social Media Report | February 1-22, 2026

Instagram

Instagram's numbers for February are on track to surpass January, driven by strong engagement with City content on the platform. With nearly 13,000 views and six days remaining in the month, we are in a good position to continue our streak of reaching at least 14,000 views each month heading into March.

All three key metrics are trending upward. As of Monday, February 22, pushed ads helped drive a significant jump in reach this month, nearly doubling January's numbers. With additional promoted content planned for March, I expect we will see another noticeable increase as spring activity begins across Western Colorado. With engagement already trending upward, February should finish in the green across the board.



Once again, standalone images generated the bulk of views on the platform. The River Bridge Fuel-Reduction update was the top-performing post, reaching more than 700 views.

The same three Facebook ads were also run on Instagram during January. Paid reach generated 3,227 views, an increase of 112.9% compared to January's 1,668 views. The Non-CDL Bus Driver position saw particularly strong traction on the platform, generating several contacts and interactions.

Looking ahead, March will likely be a more image-heavy month, with several activities and events approaching in the coming months. Based on current trends, I expect the platform will continue performing above average and may attract additional followers over the next six months.

Key Insights

• As of Monday, February 23, 2026, the account has 880 followers. Over the next year I hope to push the growth on the platform, with the additon og engaging content that should draw more views and interactions.

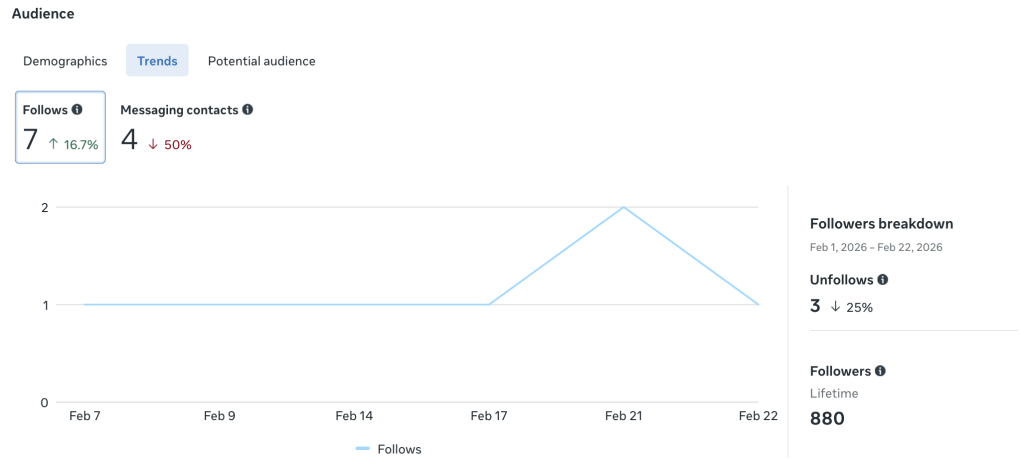
Current Metrics

– Gross Follows: 7

– Unfollows: 3

– Net Follows: 4

– Current Followers: 880



Top Performing Posts

A grid of five top-performing posts with their respective images, titles, dates, and engagement statistics.

Post Title	Date	Views	Reactions	Shares
Fuel-Reduction Project near the...	Thu Feb 5, 8:00pm	706	14	2
UPDATE: The burn operation has been...	Tue Feb 17, 11:00am	392	3	1
Update (2 PM): Good news—the roa...	Mon Feb 9, 11:00am	280	7	0
A few highlights from the last two...	Thu Feb 12, 9:00am	279	11	0
New Job Opening: Patrol Officer This a...	Tue Feb 3, 8:00pm	249	4	2

River Bridge Fuel Reductions

– 706 views, 446 reach 16 interactions: 14 Likes/Reactions, 2 Share

RMP Update: Fuel Reduction cancellation

– 392 views; 294 reach; 4 interactions: 3 Likes/Reactions, 1 Share

Update: Traffic Alert West Fifth Street Opening

– 280 views; 173 reach; 7 interactions: 0 Likes/Reactions, 0 Share

Instagram Performance (Monthly Views — Started in July 2025)

	Month	Views	% Change
2025	February	12.7K	+11.2%
	January	14.8K	-10.9%
	December	16.6K	+11.8%
	November	14.1K	-10.2%
	October	16.2K	-6.7%
	September	17.2K	+18.9%
	August	14.7K	+558.6%
	July	2.2K	+100%

Daily Views — last Seven Days

Monday — Sunday (Feb 17 — Feb 23)

Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
654	1,034	821	932	458	314	528

Social Looking Ahead

We'll continue to focus on:

- Start posting more news/city announcement posts on our X site, to see if we can grow our following on that platform.
- Plan and implement a Code Enforcement series of video highlighting key codes for resident education.
- Planning stages of employee profiling, will mix video and still images for content.

"If you can dream it, you can do it."

Walt Disney

— KM



ANNUAL

**REPORT
2025**

INTEGRITY • PROACTIVITY • COMPASSION • INNOVATION

RifleCo.org

TABLE OF CONTENT



3	About RPD
4	Chief's Message
7	Command & Leadership
10	Vision and Mission
12	Divisions
29	Records & Evidence
23	Crime Statistics and Data
35	Communications & Community Outreach

ABOUT THE CITY OF RIFLE



Rifle is a community where Western traditions—agriculture, ranching, hunting, and fishing—blend seamlessly with a modern outdoor lifestyle. Known for its mountain biking, ATVing, and stunning natural surroundings, Rifle honors its rich heritage while embracing future growth.

Located along Interstate 70, Rifle has a population of 10,437 and is one hour from Grand Junction, 90 minutes from Aspen, and three hours from Denver. Ranked 17th out of 200 towns by Outdoor Life Magazine for outdoor sports enthusiasts, Rifle sits at 5,300 feet and enjoys a mild, year-round climate.

While maintaining a small-town feel, Rifle offers modern amenities, a vibrant historic downtown, and exceptional recreation opportunities, including hunting, fishing, skiing, biking, and rock climbing.

For more information about this unique and beautiful city, visit www.rifleco.org.

ABOUT RPD



The Rifle Police Department is a team of 28 dedicated professionals, comprised of 22 sworn officers and six civilian personnel. The department is led by a Chief and supported by one lieutenant, four sergeants, four corporals, 11 patrol officers, two detectives and two CSOs. Within the Patrol Division, the department maintains specialized assignments including a K-9 Officer and a School Resource Officer, enhancing public safety and community engagement.

Through strong partnerships with neighboring agencies, the Rifle Police Department assigns an officer to a multi-jurisdictional all-crimes task force and contributes four officers to a part-time, county-wide tactical team, strengthening regional response capabilities. As a community-centric law enforcement agency, the Rifle Police Department is committed to building meaningful partnerships, proactive problem-solving, and crime prevention as top priorities, ensuring the safety and trust of those it serves.

RIFLE POLICE
DEPARTMENT




DEBRA FUNSTON
CHIEF OF POLICE

CHIEF Message

2025

The Rifle Police Department extends its sincere appreciation to the community for its continued support and the strong partnerships that help make Rifle a safe and thriving place to live and work.



Over the past year, the department has made meaningful progress in advancing public safety, strengthening transparency, and supporting the thoughtful growth of our organization. This annual report reflects the dedication of our staff and the collective efforts undertaken to ensure we continue delivering professional, effective services to the community.

Community engagement remained a priority throughout the year. The department's social media platforms continued to grow, with increased community participation and engagement. These platforms serve as a trusted source for timely and accurate information regarding local events, public safety updates, and department activities, reinforcing open communication and public trust.

Staffing and recruitment efforts continued to be a focus in 2025. Consistent with trends across Garfield County, the department experienced an increase in qualified applicants, allowing for steady progress toward filling vacant positions. To support these new team members, the department expanded the number of trained Field Training Officers, ensuring comprehensive instruction, mentorship, and support for officers entering service.

Employee wellness and mental health remain essential to the department's success. In 2024, the Rifle Police Department partnered with the regional Peer Support Team to provide additional wellness resources for employees. This team—comprised of law enforcement professionals from across the region—offers confidential support and referrals to specialized services when needed. Building on this commitment, three Rifle Police Department members joined the Garfield County Peer Support Team in 2025, further strengthening mental health support for staff.

Traffic safety initiatives were enhanced through the acquisition of two mobile traffic trailers funded by a Federal Mineral Lease District grant. Deployed in January 2025, these trailers display vehicle speeds, collect data for traffic analysis, and provide illuminated messaging related to road conditions or community events. The data collected has helped identify traffic patterns and periods of increased violations, supporting more effective traffic enforcement and public awareness. The trailers also allow the department to communicate important roadway messages directly to the community when necessary.

Professional development and leadership advancement were highlighted by the selection of Lieutenant Mike Kuper for the prestigious Police Executive Fellowship Program in Washington, D.C. Following a nationwide selection process, Lt. Kuper served a six-month fellowship in 2025, working out of the FBI's J. Edgar Hoover Building. His work focused on researching and analyzing active shooter incidents nationwide, comparing events against a national assessment matrix. The findings from this research will be published in an annual FBI report and contribute to the development of future prevention and response strategies at a national level.

The Rifle Police Department remains committed to delivering efficient, professional, and community-focused public safety services. We are grateful for the opportunity to serve the residents of Rifle and value the trust placed in us. We look forward to continuing our work together in the year ahead.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Debra Finston". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

COMMAND



DEBRA FUNSTON
Chief

Debra Funston has dedicated 37 years to a distinguished career in law enforcement. She began her journey in 1988 in Virginia before returning to her home state of Colorado, where she served in various law enforcement agencies. Debra holds a Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice and a Master's degree in Public Administration. Before joining the Rifle Police Department as Chief of Police in 2021, she served as the Chief of Police in Palisade, Colorado. Her extensive experience and leadership continue to be invaluable to our community.

Lieutenant Mike Kuper joined the Rifle Police Department in 2001 and has served in a variety of roles, including Patrol Officer, Field Training Officer, Patrol Sergeant, Range Master, and Detective Sergeant. A founding member of the Garfield County All Hazards Response Team, he was later promoted to Lieutenant in 2021. Lt. Kuper was selected for the FBI's Police Executive Fellowship Program, where he worked on the Active Shooter Initiative, earned ALERRT instructor certification, and completed advanced executive leadership training, bringing nationally recognized best practices back to the Rifle Police Department.



MIKE KUPER
Lieutenant

SERGEANTS



DEWEY RYAN
Detective Sgt.



MIKE TYLER
Admin Sgt.



NICK FLATEN
Patrol Sgt.



KYLE GREEN
Patrol Sgt.

CORPORALS



DIEGO PINA

Corporal



JOSE VALADEZ

Corporal

Frontline Leadership: Sergeants and Corporals

Sergeants and Corporals serve as the backbone of frontline leadership at the Rifle Police Department. As the direct link between command staff and patrol officers, they provide daily supervision, mentorship, and accountability while ensuring department standards and community expectations are met. Their leadership is critical during critical incidents, where timely decision-making, clear communication, and officer support directly impact public safety outcomes.

Beyond supervision, Sergeants and Corporals play a vital role in developing officers, reinforcing training, and modeling professionalism. Their presence in the field ensures consistency, integrity, and effective service delivery, making them essential to the success of RPD's mission and the safety of the community.

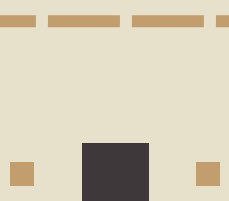


VISION

Through innovative thinking and goal setting, the Rifle Police Department is committed to delivering exceptional law enforcement services to our city. We will continue to strengthen community relationships and public trust while striving for excellence through employee development, self-discipline, and strong leadership.

MISSION

"We endeavor to promote the peace, safety, and well-being of our community through interaction, education, and enforcement of the law."



PATROL DIVISION

The patrol team is the backbone of the Rifle Police Department's operations, serving on the front lines to ensure the safety and security of the community. They respond to emergencies, conduct routine patrols, investigate incidents, and engage with residents to address concerns and build trust. Their proactive approach helps deter crime, while their dedication to service exemplifies the department's commitment to protecting and serving all who live, work, and visit Rifle.



FIELD TRAINING UNIT

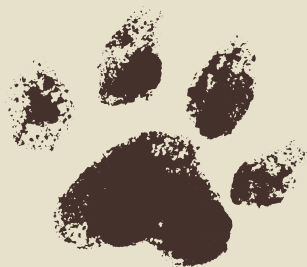
The Field Training Officer (FTO) unit is an essential component of the Rifle Police Department, responsible for mentoring and preparing new officers for the demands of law enforcement. FTOs provide hands-on training, guidance, and evaluation to ensure recruits develop the skills and knowledge required to serve effectively. By fostering professionalism and instilling department values, the FTO unit plays a vital role in shaping the department's future and maintaining high service standards.



K9 OFFICER

In late 2024, the Rifle Police Department expanded its K9 Program under the leadership of Sgt. Kyle Green. In early 2025, the unit proudly welcomed rescue K9 Apollo, selected from a local shelter.

Together, Sgt. Green and K9 Apollo strengthen specialized enforcement capabilities while also engaging the community through public events and outreach. With support from the Rifle Police Foundation, the department remains committed to a strong, effective K9 Program that enhances public safety and builds genuine community connections.



SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER

The Rifle Police Department's School Resource Officer (SRO) Program strengthens relationships between law enforcement, students, families, and school staff while enhancing school safety. Officer Josh Allison serves as the City of Rifle's SRO, primarily assigned to Rifle High School and supporting Rifle Middle School, Highland Elementary, Graham Mesa Elementary, and Wamsley Elementary Schools.

5
Schools

2,576
Students

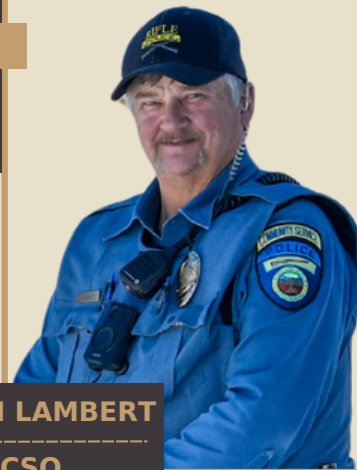
465
Calls for
Service
at schools in 2025



COMMUNITY SERVICE OFFICERS

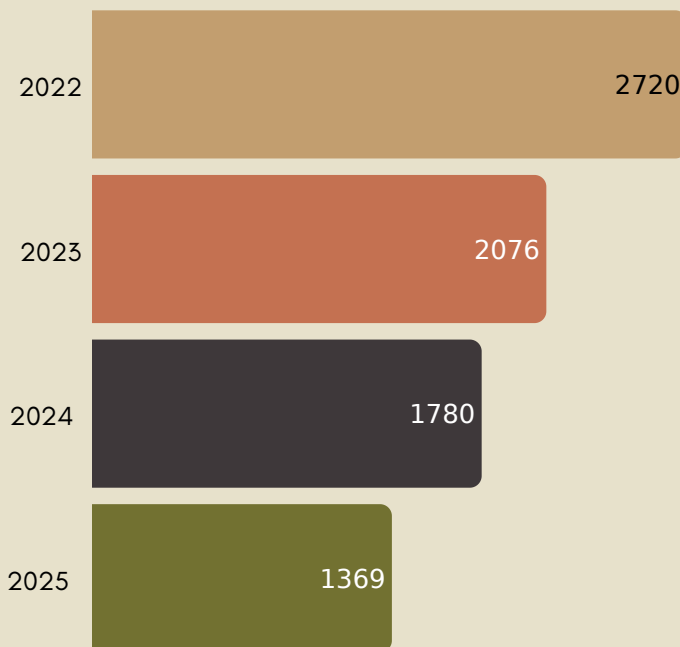


DAWN NEELY
CSO



ALAN LAMBERT
CSO

CSO Incidents 2022 - 2025



The Rifle Police Department's Community Service Officers (CSOs) focus on building strong relationships with residents and business owners while promoting compliance with city codes and proactive problem-solving. CSOs play a key role in keeping Rifle safe and welcoming by handling animal control, nuisance code violations, abandoned vehicles, and parking concerns, providing reliable support and service to the community every day.



DRONE TEAM

The Rifle Police Department's Drone Unit enhances public safety through advanced aerial technology. Drones provide critical support in crime scene documentation and search and rescue, offering aerial perspectives that improve evidence preservation and accelerate response times.

Founded by Lt. Mike Kuper, the unit has been operational for about a year and continues to grow. Lt. Kuper now oversees training for several officers who are working toward their sUAS (drone pilot) licenses, strengthening the department's ability to respond quickly and efficiently to evolving incidents.



INVESTIGATIONS UNIT

The Detective Division investigates reported criminal activity within the City of Rifle. Detectives conduct interviews, analyze evidence, and compile comprehensive case files for court. They also respond to major crime scenes, ensure proper evidence collection, and prepare physical evidence for submission to the Colorado Bureau of Investigation. **In 2025, detectives investigated 14 death cases, 9 child or elder abuse cases, 46 sex offenses, 49 fraud or identity theft cases, 5 burglary or menacing cases, and 25 additional investigations.**



HALEY CROW
Detective

DEWEY RYAN
Detective Sgt.

KALLIE MCCAIN
Detective

AHRT

ALL HAZARDS RESPONSE TEAM

The Garfield County All Hazards Response Team (AHRT) was established to address the evolving and increasingly complex needs of communities throughout Garfield County. AHRT is a collaborative, multi-agency team composed of sworn law enforcement officers from the Garfield County Sheriff's Office, Glenwood Springs Police Department, and Rifle Police Department. The team is further strengthened by the inclusion of paramedics and firefighters from Glenwood Springs Fire Department and Colorado River Fire Rescue, ensuring a comprehensive, all-hazards response capability.



PUBLIC INFORMATION

Angela Stow-Mills serves as the Public Information Officer for the Rifle Police Department, bringing more than two decades of experience in marketing, media relations, and community engagement. Since joining the department in 2022, she has focused on strengthening relationships between the community and the department through strategic communication, storytelling, and outreach efforts that promote trust, transparency, and collaboration.

Public Information Officer Responsibilities

The Public Information Officer serves as the department's primary spokesperson and leads media relations and crisis communications. Responsibilities include managing public outreach and social media,



producing press releases and digital content, coordinating community events, and supporting transparency by monitoring public perception and addressing misinformation.

PEER SUPPORT

The Rifle Police Department Peer Support Program continued its partnership with the Garfield County Peer Support Program throughout the year, providing support to first responders across the county and throughout Colorado. We would like to express our sincere gratitude to one of our advisors, Justin Macklin, who recently retired after many years of dedicated service. Justin was a valued asset to our team, consistently sharing his experience and knowledge with others. We are thankful for his lasting impact and wish him the very best in his well-earned retirement.

Peer Support remains an essential part of how we care for our team. Through proactive outreach and shared understanding, we create space for reflection, connection, and support when it is needed most. Our Peer Support members continue to collaborate with other agencies, bringing new ideas and best practices back to our department.

Looking ahead to 2026, we hope to expand our team, pursue additional training opportunities, and strengthen partnerships across agencies. The Rifle Police Department Peer Support Team is honored to serve and support first responders throughout Garfield County.



R.E.D

RECORDS & EVIDENCE UNIT

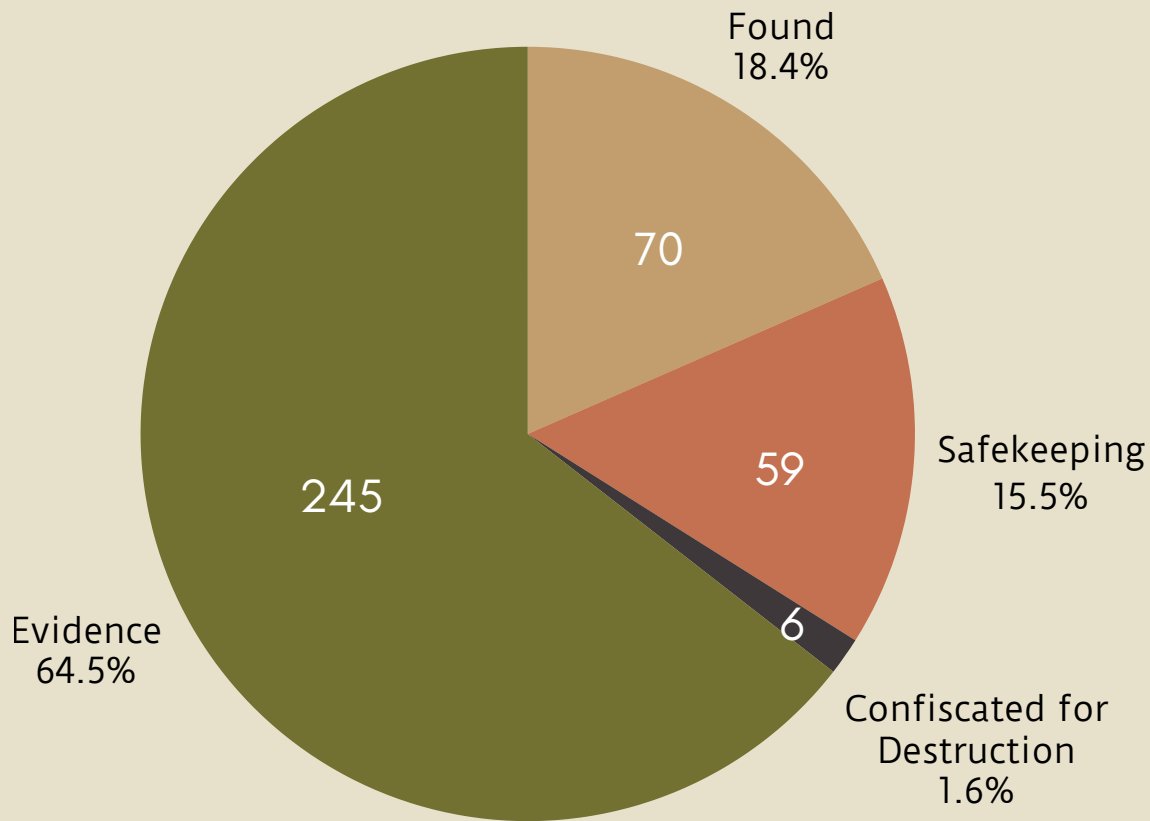
The Records & Evidence Department ensures accurate recordkeeping and secure evidence management for the Rifle Police Department.

Staffed by a Records & Evidence Manager, one Records Technician, and one Evidence Technician, the unit processes records requests, manages reports and citations, oversees sex offender registrations, submits required data to state and national reporting systems, compiles crime statistics, and handles evidence processing.



R.E.D

BY THE NUMBERS

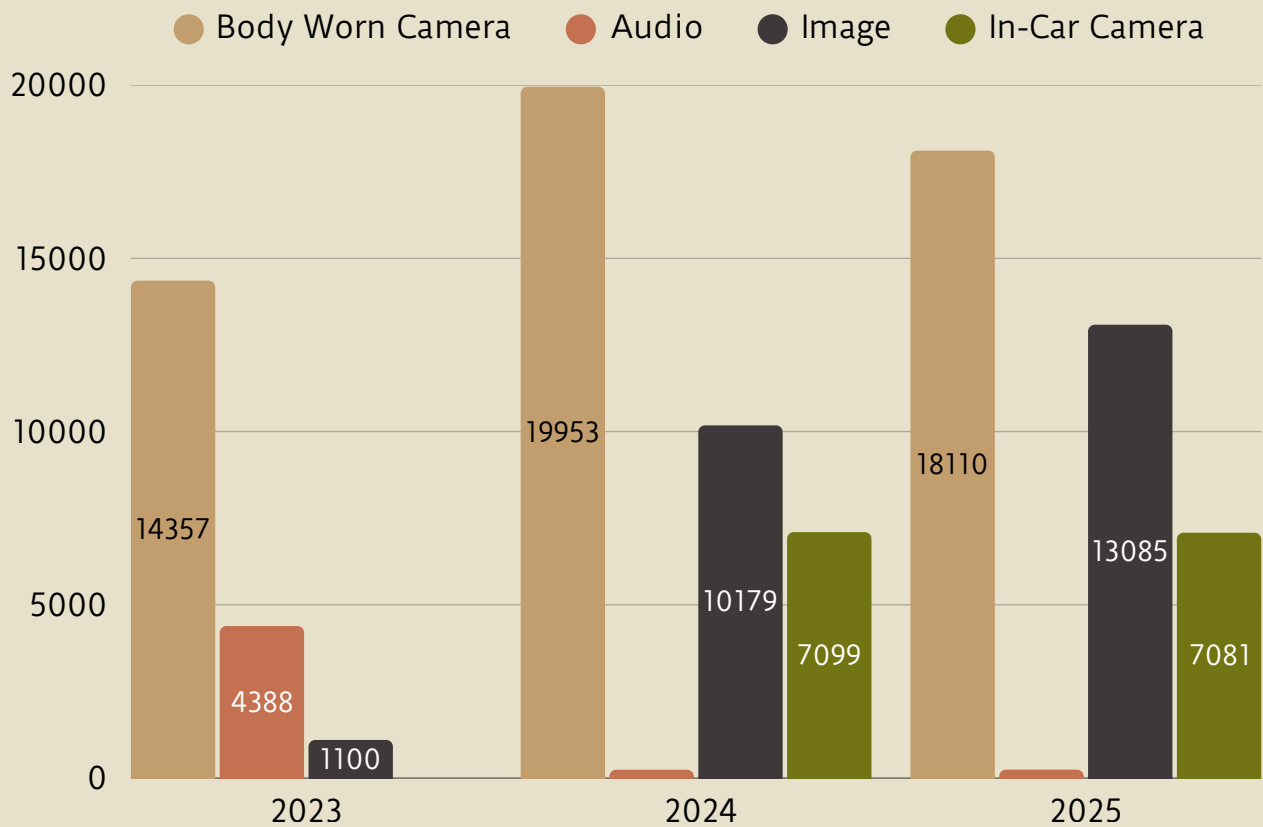


Throughout the year, the Records and Evidence Department receives and processes a wide range of property and evidence items, including firearms, personal belongings, drugs and drug paraphernalia, and other miscellaneous evidence.

In 2025, R.E.D. processed **380 items** and successfully passed all audits with **100% accuracy**.

R.E.D

MEDIA FILES



R.E.D. is responsible for digital evidence retention and release. The Rifle Police Department started using Body Worn Cameras (BWC) in 2020 to prepare for mandatory use which started on Jan. 1, 2023.

In 2024, the Rifle Police Department transitioned from GETAC cameras to Axon cameras, including the addition of in-car cameras with a dash camera view and a rear passenger view.

SPEAR

This specialized unit is comprised of sworn law enforcement officers from the Rifle Police Department and the Garfield County Sheriff's Office.

SPEAR focuses on drug and vice-related offenses and crimes against persons, including homicide, robbery, aggravated assault, kidnapping, suspicious deaths, and other felony assaults. The unit also supports gang suppression, drug interdiction, fugitive apprehension, and human trafficking investigations.



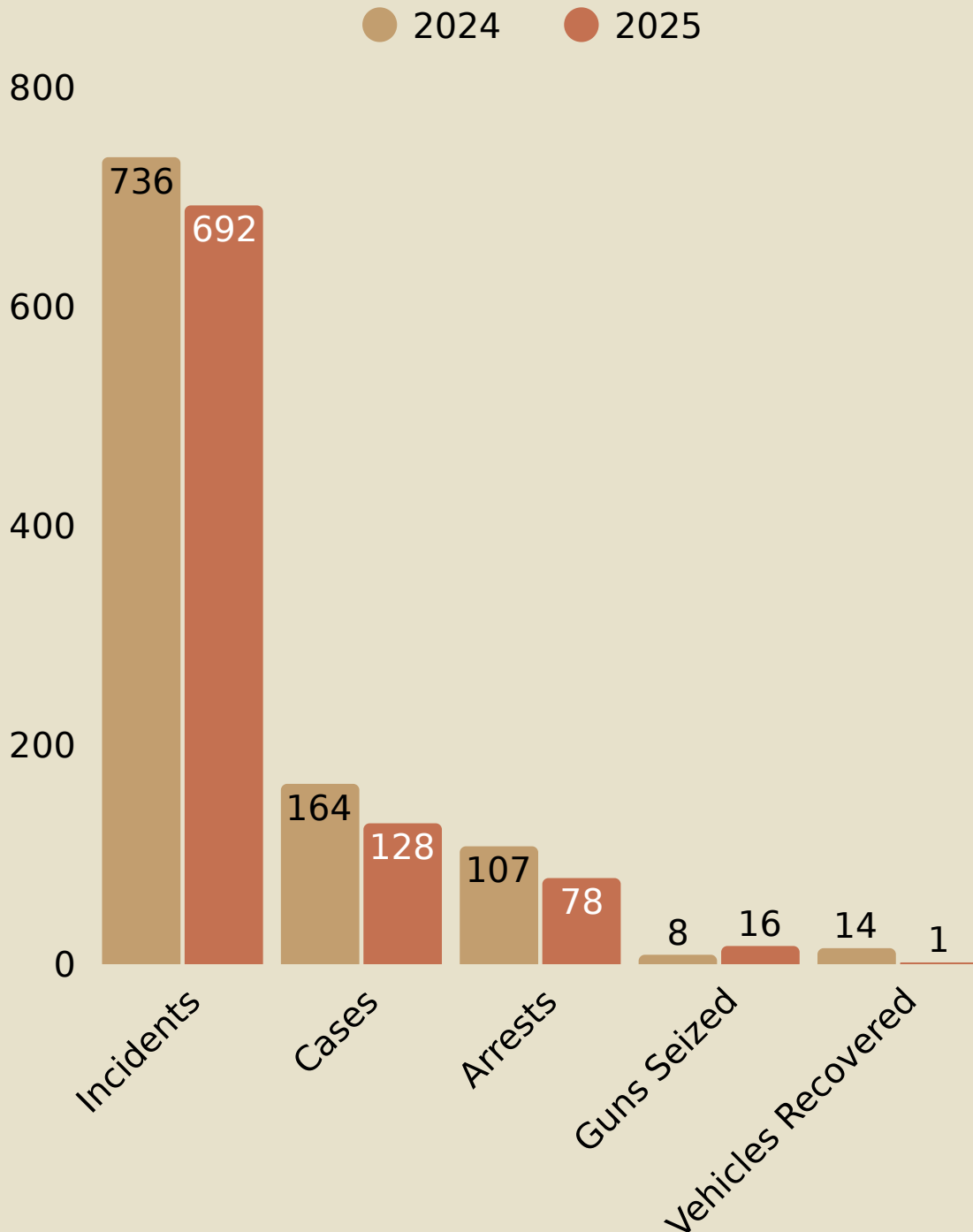
Message from SPEAR Sgt. Tyler

As 2025 has come and gone, SPEAR has continued to put pressure on the people who have brought problems to our community. Through our continued work with our local and federal partners, SPEAR had another successful year for the good guys, not so much for the bad guys.

Mike Tyler

SPEAR

STATS AT A GLANCE



■ ■ SPEAR ■ ■

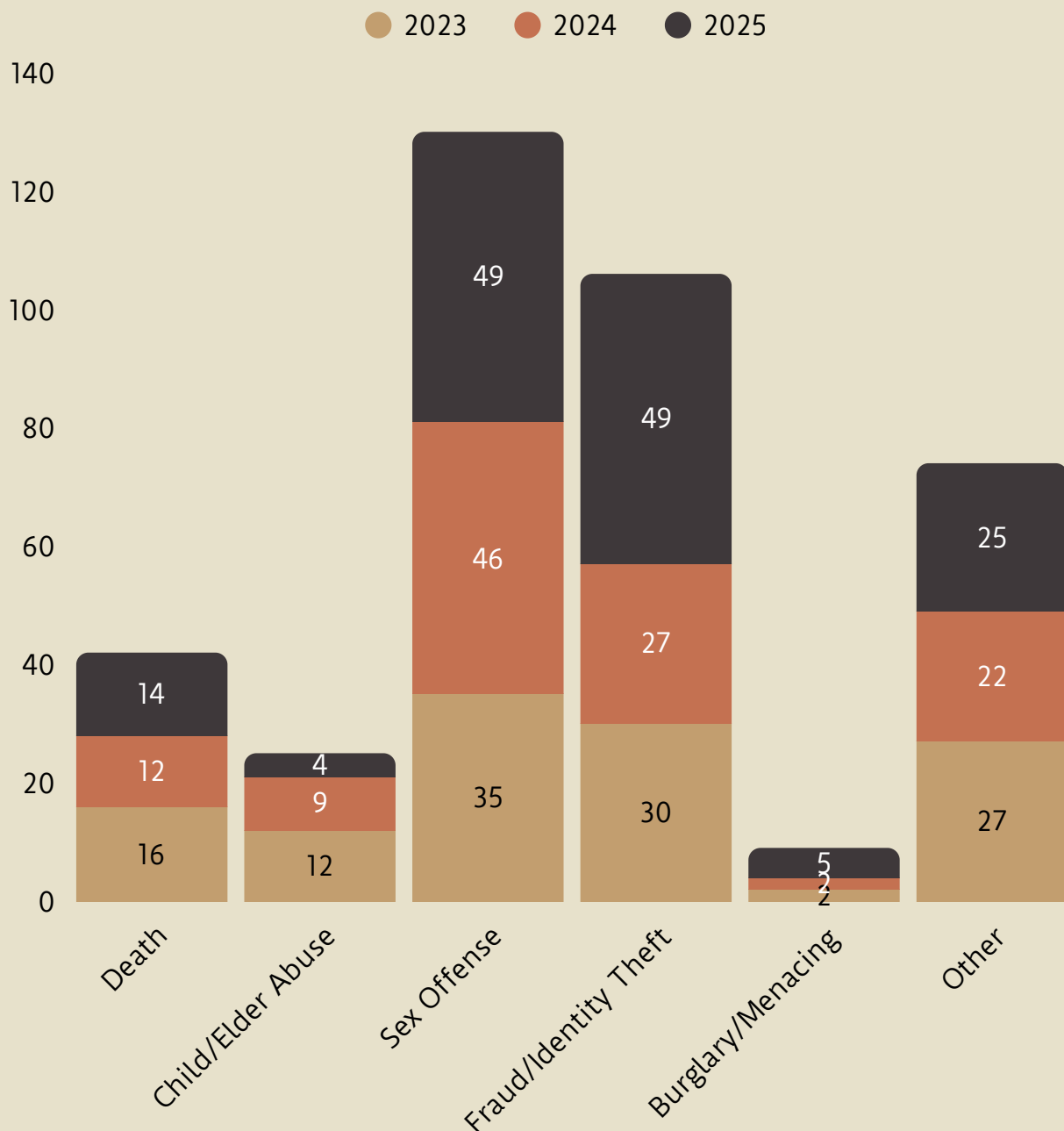
ILLEGAL DRUGS SEIZED

- **Fentanyl Pills - 5,066**
- **Fentanyl Powder - 3.61 grams TGW**
- **Methamphetamine - 193.66 grams**
- **Cocaine - 3917.32 grams TGW**
- **Crack Cocaine - 18.49 grams TGW**
- **Heroin - 3.61 grams**
- **Marijuana - 29,694.5 grams TWG**
- **Psilocybin Mushrooms - 525.2 grams TGW**

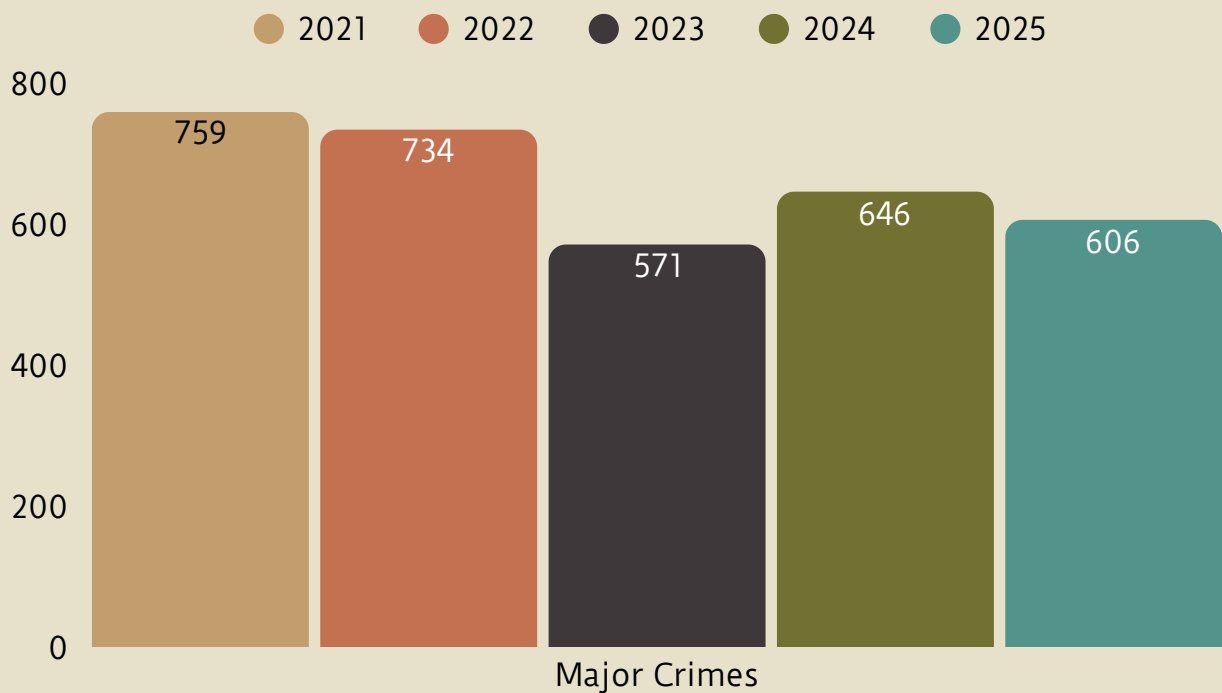
\$560,438

Estimated total street value of drugs seized

INVESTIGATIONS CASE BREAKDOWN



MAJOR CRIMES



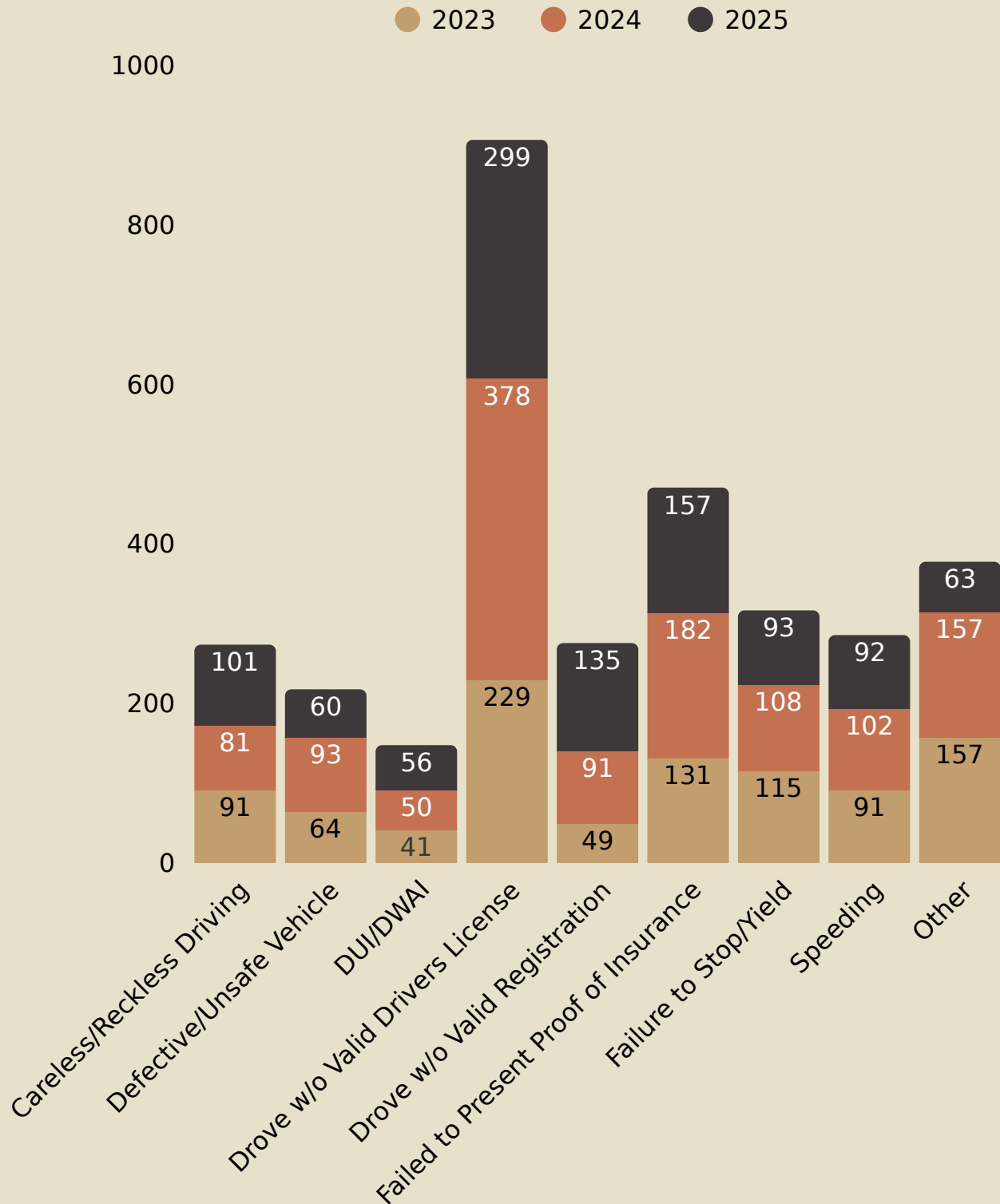
In 2025, the Rifle Police Department investigated 606 major crimes, a 6% decrease from 646 in 2024. Several serious crime categories saw notable declines, including assault cases, which dropped 35%, and child abuse cases, which also decreased 35%.

These shifts highlight the impact of having a highly skilled and experienced team, enabling us to allocate resources more effectively, serve warrants efficiently, and take a proactive stance in preventing and solving crimes—without reflecting a rise in overall criminal activity.

MAJOR CRIMES

Case Type	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Arson	4	4	1	3	1	0	0
Assault	23	33	26	31	26	34	22
Burglary	24	21	19	18	7	10	11
Child Abuse	10	7	5	10	13	11	6
Criminal Mischief	52	52	49	32	28	18	23
Criminal Trespass	46	65	73	45	51	62	46
Domestic	61	50	64	77	82	79	69
Drugs	66	60	46	31	14	26	17
DUI/DWAI	69	95	61	48	37	38	49
Fraud/Forgery	35	36	15	30	25	20	46
Harassment	19	24	18	14	17	33	13
Homicide	2	1	2	0	0	0	0
Identity Theft	5	1	3	5	2	1	2
Kidnapping/Hostage	0	2	1	0	0	0	1
Menacing	8	9	2	13	6	13	4
Missing Person	15	34	9	10	12	13	21
Motor Vehicle Theft	14	22	31	29	20	10	12
Robbery	3	1	4	2	3	1	0
Sex Offense	22	31	39	48	32	42	40
Theft	155	185	162	153	89	83	107
Warrant	152	86	121	132	99	146	114
Weapon Violation	5	10	8	3	7	6	3
Major Crimes	790	829	759	734	571	646	606
All Cases	1017	1050	966	915	726	805	767

TRAFFIC CITATIONS



TRAFFIC CITATIONS

Traffic safety initiatives were strengthened in 2025 with the acquisition of two mobile traffic trailers funded through a Federal Mineral Lease District grant. Deployed in January, these trailers display real-time vehicle speeds, collect detailed traffic data, and provide illuminated messaging related to road conditions, safety reminders, and community events. The data collected has allowed the department to better identify traffic patterns, peak travel times, and areas of increased violations, resulting in more focused and effective enforcement.

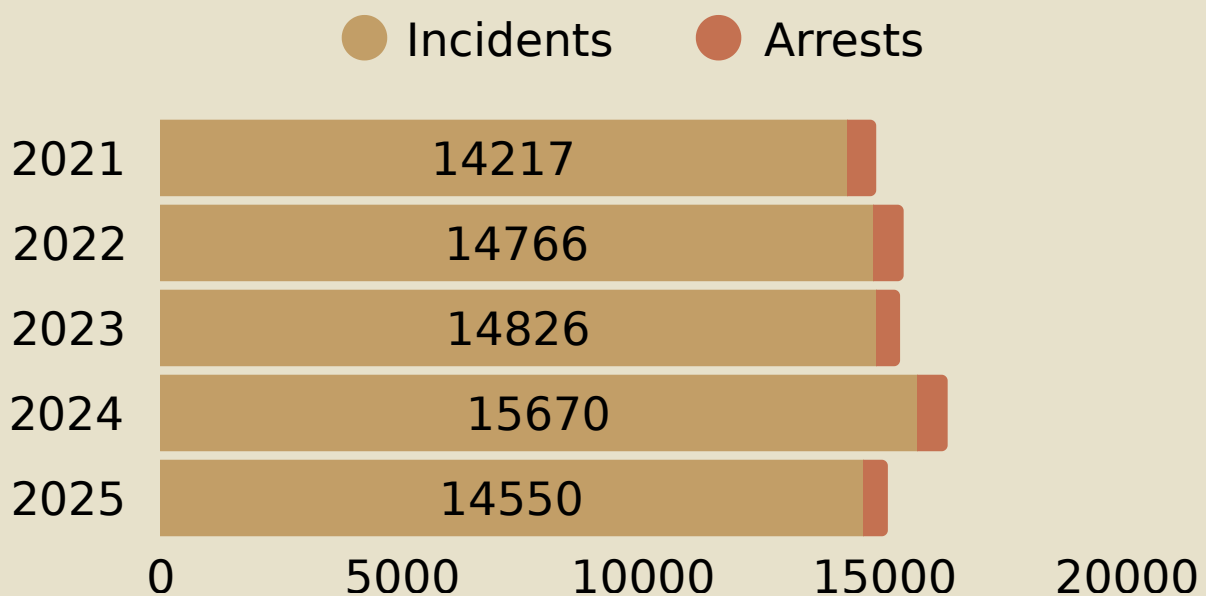
While overall traffic citation numbers declined in several categories in 2025, this decrease does not reflect reduced enforcement. Instead, it reflects a more strategic, data-driven approach that emphasizes visibility, education, and targeted action. Compared to 2024, defective or unsafe vehicle violations decreased by approximately 36%, driving without a valid license declined by 21%, failure to present proof of insurance dropped by 14%, failure to stop or yield decreased by 14%, and speeding violations fell by nearly 10%, indicating improved voluntary compliance and increased driver awareness.

At the same time, the department saw increases in higher-risk violations, including careless or reckless driving (up approximately 25%), DUI/DWAI offenses (up 12%), and driving without a valid registration (up nearly 48%). These increases helped guide enforcement efforts toward behaviors that pose the greatest risk to public safety. By combining technology, data analysis, and proactive enforcement, the Rifle Police Department continues to enhance roadway safety while deploying resources efficiently and intentionally.

INCIDENTS & ARRESTS

In 2025, the Rifle Police Department handled 14,550 incidents, representing a 7% decrease from the 15,670 incidents reported in 2024. Arrests also declined, with 504 arrests in 2025, a 19% decrease from the 622 arrests made the previous year.

These numbers highlight a continued shift toward proactive, data-driven policing, focused enforcement efforts, and increased compliance through visibility, education, and early intervention. Strategic deployment of resources, enhanced use of technology, and strong community engagement have allowed officers to address issues before they escalate, contributing to fewer incidents requiring enforcement action while maintaining a strong focus on public safety.



TRAINING BY THE NUMBERS



Continuous training is essential for professional and effective law enforcement. In Colorado, POST Rule 28 requires peace officers to complete 24 hours of training annually, including at least 12 hours of perishable skills (arrest control, driving, firearms), with a minimum of one hour for each skill area. Additional training covers topics such as legislative updates, ethics, CPR/First Aid, mental health, and de-escalation. These requirements reflect our ongoing commitment to accountability, excellence, and community safety.

COMMUNICATIONS

The Rifle Police Department is dedicated to fostering trust and building strong relationships with our community by providing transparent, accurate, and timely information. We believe open communication is essential to ensuring the safety and well-being of our residents. That's why we encourage active, two-way dialogue and value your input, questions, and feedback. Together, we can continue to create a safer and more connected community.

In 2025, the Public Communications Division continued strengthening community connections and enhancing public communication. The division issued 21 news releases and reached 5,831,858 views on our Facebook page. Our most engaging content included several news releases, including the arrest of Aaron Spivey, the ever-popular "Shop with a Cop" video, and our "Ask Us Anything" posts.



COMMUNITY OUTREACH

This year marked the continuation of several meaningful community initiatives, including **Detective Kallie McCain's heartwarming Pumpkin Painting** tradition with third graders. We participated in **Camp Badge**, a program that fosters positive relationships with youth, and hosted our annual **Shop with a Cop** event to brighten the holidays for local families. Our **Bike Rodeo** drew **over 500 attendees**, while **Trunk-or-Treat** attracted **over 45 vendors** and guests from across the county. Elementary school students toured the Police Department, gaining insight into law enforcement, while officers visited senior centers and retirement homes to discuss common scams targeting our community.



YEARS OF SERVICE

Happy Retirement Officer Macklin

After more than 25 years of dedicated service, Officer Justin Macklin officially answered his final call with the City of Rifle. Throughout his career, he served with professionalism and integrity in many roles, including Field Training Officer, Firearms Instructor, School Resource Officer, Detective, and a key contributor to the department's Peer Support Team. His impact on the department and the community will be felt for years to come.



We thank Officer Macklin for his service and wish him a long, healthy, and well-earned retirement.

25

or more years
of service

- Corporal Diego Pina
- Sergeant Mike Tyler



20

to 24 years
of service



Sergeant Dewey Ryan



Officer Jose Valadez



Lieutenant Mike Kuper

15

to 19 years
of service



Sergeant Nick Flaten

10

to 14 years
of service



CSO Dawn Neely

RIFLE POLICE FOUNDATION



The Rifle Police Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting the Rifle Police Department. Through charitable donations and community partnerships, the Foundation promotes excellence within the department and enhances public safety by providing resources not readily available through traditional funding sources.

In 2025, the Foundation supported the Rifle Police Department in several impactful ways, including funding the **acquisition and training of a new K9**, providing a **new e-bike for Bike Patrol**, and helping support the department's annual **Shop with a Cop** event.

“To strengthen the services of the Rifle Police Department, promote excellence within the department, and improve public safety for the City of Rifle.”



Learn more about the
foundation by scanning the
QR Code





**BE A PART OF SOMETHING
BIGGER THAN YOURSELF.**



Being a Rifle Police Officer is more than a career — it is a **purpose** and a **calling to serve**, to **grow**, and to continually push oneself toward **excellence**.



Special Assignments:

- AHRT • SRO • Detective
- Drone Team

Minimum wage for this position as a POST certified candidate starts at

\$34.88
per hour

SCAN TO APPLY.

The City of Rifle is an equal opportunity employer.

RIFLE POLICE DEPARTMENT



THANK YOU RIFLE



Report prepared by Angela Stow-Mills
Photo Credit - Kyle Mills
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